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Farm and Ranch Review

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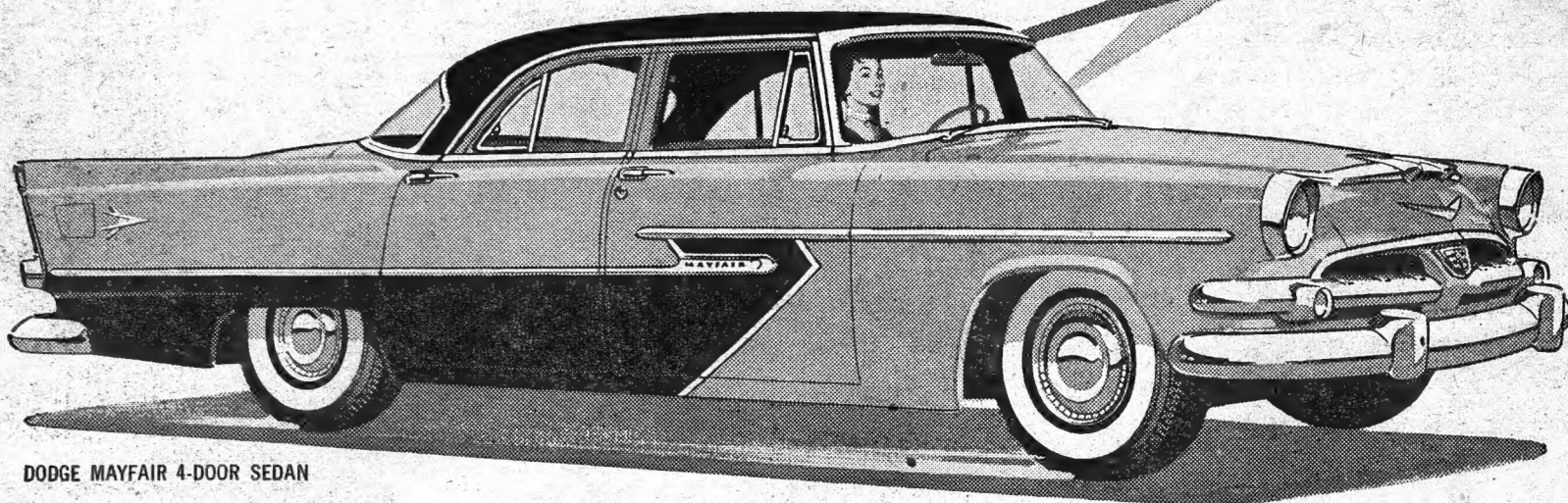
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Alberta Government Photo.

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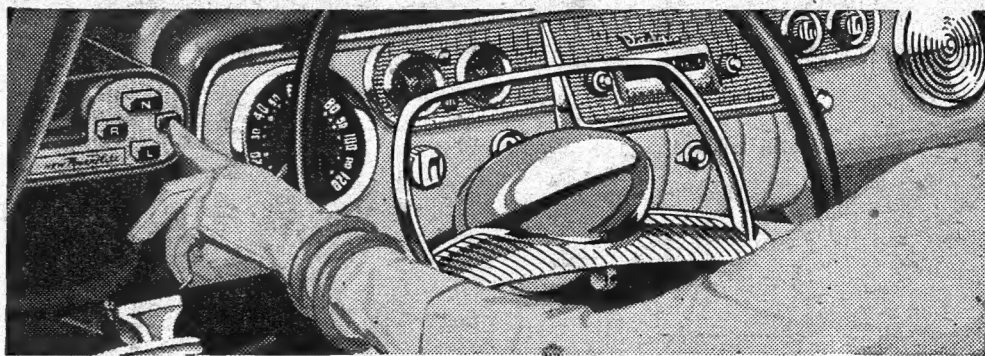
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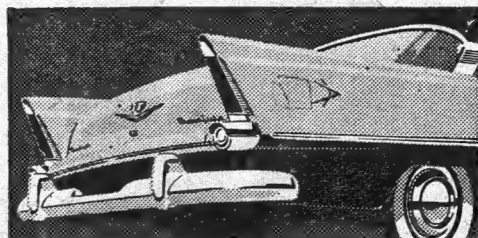
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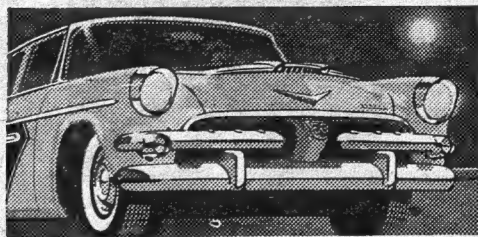
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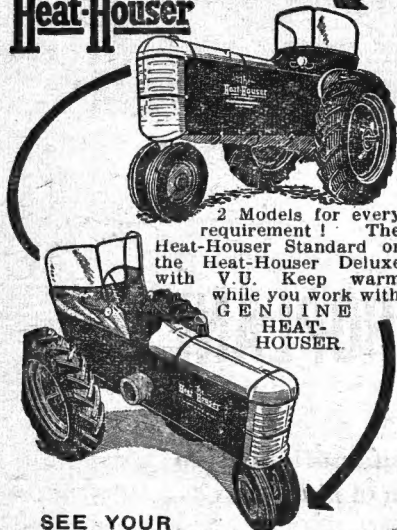
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Farm and Ranch Review

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Vol. LI.

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No. 11

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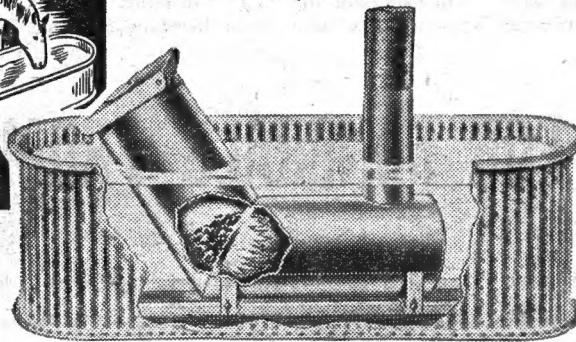
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— Contents —

Editorials	5 and 6
Editor's Desk	7
Queen Charlotte Islands, P. W. Luce	8
Alberta's Master Farmers	12
Bookkeeping on the Farm, Frieda Dekker	14
Famous Wagon Race, Jim Hannaford	15
The Era of Oxen, F. A. Twilley	16
Sleepers of the Wild, Kerry Wood	17
Perilous Mountain Journey, E. R. Woodman	19
The Mysterious Immigrant, John F. Moore	20
It's Still The Matador, Grant MacEwan	21
The Broncho in Early Saskatchewan, Phillip Crampton	22
Our Hummingbirds, Kate Watson	23
Aunt Sal	24 and 25
Our Hutterite Neighbors, C. Frank Steele	28
You Will Be Interested, Stanley F. Kemsley	33
The Dream of Peter Shirt, Annie L. Gaetz	34
I Saw on the Farm	36
Our Readers Think	37



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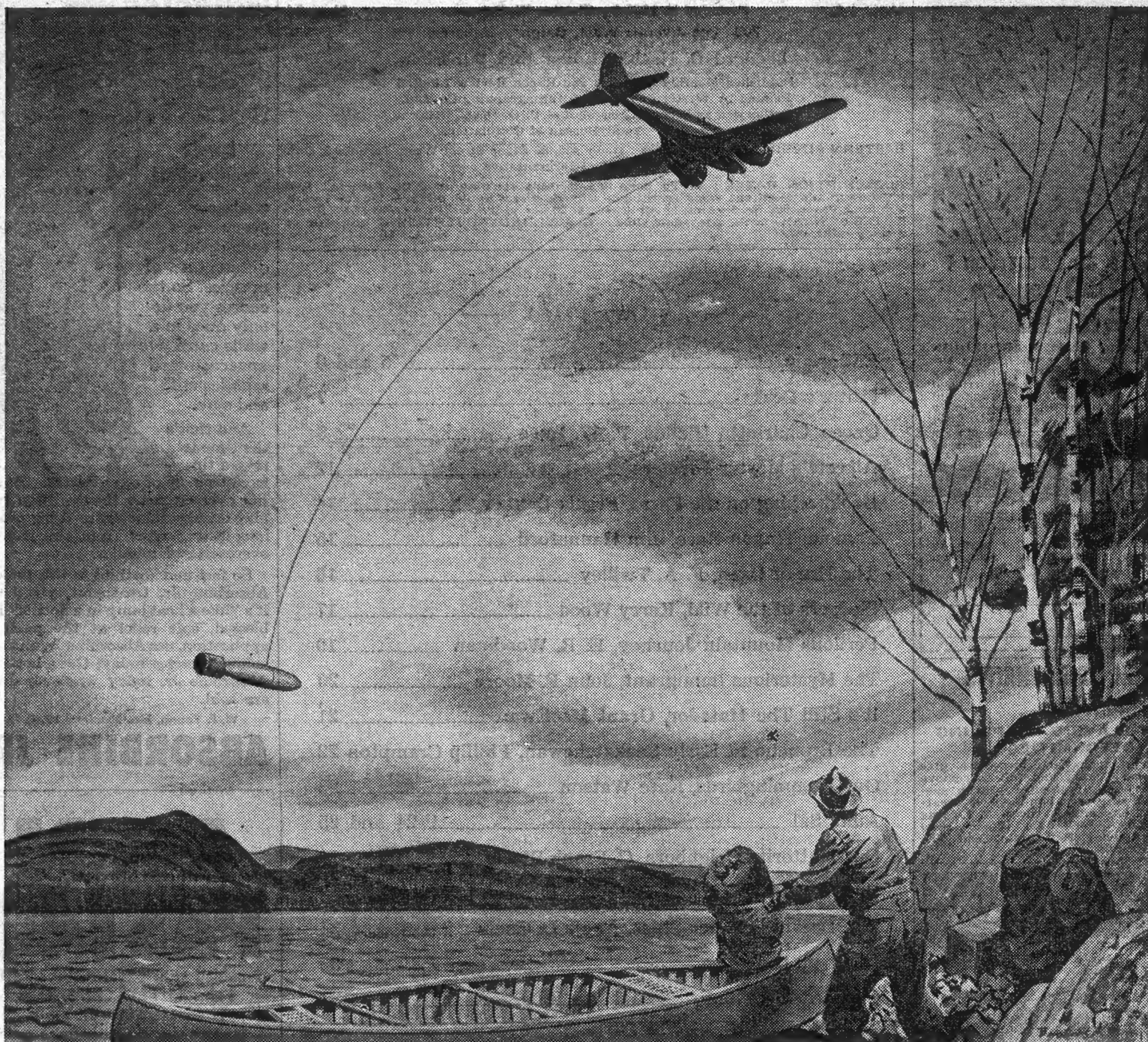
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Farm and Ranch Review Editorials

The west has to carry the burden of the east

ELSEWHERE on this page is reprinted an editorial from The Globe and The Mail, Toronto, Ontario. It gives an Eastern Canadian opinion of the people in Western Canada, and of conditions existing here. In our opinion there is a lack of understanding on the part of the writer of the causes of the economic problems of the west, and the struggles of the people here to overcome the difficulties they continually encounter.

The west is criticized for "gambling in wheat". The reason the prairie provinces seed from 20,000,000 to 24,000,000 acres to wheat each year is that most of that acreage is suitable only for wheat growing. Where rainfall is normally light, wheat will produce in greater volume than any other grain. Farmers live with Nature and the fickleness of weather creates risks so, in a sense, they have to "gamble".

The west has developed a thriving livestock industry. The accusation is that the farmers therein "gamble on stock-growing." The one big "gamble", if that term may be used, is price. Western stock-growers are, for the most part, efficient operators. They can produce in abundance if the markets are available. The experience of the years is the proof behind that assertion.

During the five years of World War 2 Canada supplied Great Britain with 2,600,000,000 lbs. of bacon and pork products, 197,000,000 lbs. of beef and 887,000,000 bushels of wheat. Nearly all of this food supply came from the prairie provinces of the west. The "gamble" in wheat growing and livestock production paid off then for without that substantial supply of food being made available for the British people it is doubtful if the Mother Country could have survived.

Stock raising is important business in the west. In the year 1954 the farmers of the three prairie provinces had a cash income of \$1,047,000,000. The returns from the sale of livestock totalled \$313,698,000, as compared with \$310,860,000 from the sale of wheat.

Why did westerners not "gamble in oil"? asks The Globe and The Mail. "They knew it was there all along." The reason is that most of the oil acreage was in the hands of the provincial governments who disposed of vast acreages to the highest bidders and the Americans bid the highest. Had the farmers been possessed of the oil and mineral rights, as well as the surface rights, the situation would have been vastly different.

Most of the wealth produced by the west has flowed eastward where the head offices of the great banks, insurance companies, trust and loan corporations, and massive manufacturing concerns are located. The wealthy east entered into the western oil business too late and on too small a scale. The result is that United States interests possess about 65 per cent of the oil wealth of the west. Now who is to blame?

The lack of population in the west is due to the limited industrialism of the

region. Ontario and Quebec have a corner on Canadian industrialism. Protected by tariffs and the uneconomic division of the continent on national lines, those two provinces do 80 per cent of Canadian manufacturing. In our opinion the one bright opportunity for the west to develop an industrial life is through the use of its own huge natural gas reserves. But the owners thereof are busily engaged in seeking outlets elsewhere, to further industrialize Central Canada and the United States.

"Why did not they (the people of the west) gamble on irrigation?" asks The Globe and The Mail. Many millions of dollars have been spent on irrigation projects in the west, mostly in Alberta. But the expansion of irrigation in this part of Canada is not a panacea for the economic position of the west. Irrigation farming is expensive and its success depends upon the availability of extensive markets for specialized crops, such as sugar beets, vegetables, alfalfa, honey, etc. Those products, for the most part, require local markets and there is not the population in the west to consume substantial production. Irrigation farming provides stability in drouth years and furnishes supplies of vegetables and even fruits which would otherwise have to be imported. But irrigation will not solve the economic problems of the west.

The farmers of the west seek some stability in prices for their products. So do the manufacturers of Ontario and Quebec, who are shielded from competition through tariff walls. So does organized labor through trade unions. So do the professional men through their associations.

Canada would be a poor nation without its wide western lands. This part of the Dominion has made substantial progress under adverse economic conditions, the result of the unnatural division of the continent under nationalistic impositions. But the west is too rich in resources to be kept under subjection forever, and its people too enterprising and energetic to be subdued.

★

The F. U. A. membership drive is on

THE Farmers' Union of Alberta will be in the thick of its Jubilee Membership Drive by the time this issue gets into the hands of its readers. Last year the F.U.A. obtained 52 per cent of all Alberta farmers as members. That was quite an achievement. We think the organization should do a little better this year.

Once the F.U.A. gets strongly established it can accomplish many things for its membership and for agriculture in general. It will, of course, continue to be a pressure group. But there are many other avenues which, if opened up, will prove advantageous to the farm people.

Farmers' organizations in the United States have, over the years, extended their activities with great benefit to agriculture. The F.U.A. can do the same. The organization should send an emissary to the United States to observe what is being done. The F.U.A. cannot stand still.

It must demonstrate in practical ways its usefulness to farm people.

In the meantime the farmers can encourage the organization by joining in overwhelming numbers.

★

What's wrong with the west?

(The Globe and The Mail, Toronto)

THE wheat economy is a harsh one, as harsh as the climate that fosters it. Both have produced, in Alberta and Saskatchewan, a hardy and vigorous race of people, accustomed to extremes of heat and cold, familiar alike with sudden wealth and sudden ruination. Other provinces have their rich and their poor, but between the Rockies and Manitoba dwell thousands of men and women who know what it means to be both. Wheat is a gamble.

And herein lies the riddle of Canada's far West. It will gamble on wheat, it will gamble on stock-growing, but it will not gamble on other things: things that might yield a bigger, and more dependable, return. Why, for example, did Alberta and Saskatchewan not gamble on their oil? It was there all along, they knew it was there all along; but it was only in the last few years that it was discovered. And it was Americans, by and large, who did the discovering.

Again, why did they not gamble on irrigation? A few hundreds of millions of that — and many, many hundreds of millions have flowed into the West during the last five years — would have modified, if not averted, the disaster of the 1930's; and would have given the western economy a much firmer and broader basis than it has today. Lastly, why did they not gamble (not, at any rate, in the last forty years) on immigration? The greatest, the most desperate, handicap of these two provinces is their lack of people. Yet they do not seem even to realize that, still less do anything about it.

It comes back, as it nearly always does, to the matter of leadership. The people of Alberta and Saskatchewan are as tough, as enterprising and as energetic as North America has to offer. History and nature have made them so. But one looks almost in vain for energy and enterprise among their leaders. Their leaders are, and have long been, mainly concerned with that drab thing, security. Which perhaps explains why, after fifty years, an era of half-a-million square miles, richly endowed with a variety of natural resources, harbors not many more people than metropolitan Toronto; and speaks only in a small voice at Confederation's table.

★

Canadians eating plenty of meat

CANADIANS are great meat eaters. For the first eight months of the present year the domestic disappearance of beef, pork, veal and lamb and mutton totalled 1,047,252,000 lbs. according to the marketing service of the federal department of agriculture. That total consumption was nearly 76,000,000 lbs. greater than during the same period in 1954.

The figures of consumption of the various kinds of meat:

Beef, lbs.	531,047,000
Veal, lbs.	53,780,000
Pork, lbs.	440,889,000
Lamb and mutton, lbs.	21,536,000

Cattle marketings for the period totalled 1,236,000, of which only 57,000 were exported, either live or in the form of beef. Some 1,066,000 were slaughtered in inspected meat packing plants.

Hog marketings totalled 3,715,000, of which 395,000 were exported and 3,386,000 went into domestic consumption.

Chambers of Commerce and grain producers

THE annual convention of the Canadian Chamber of Commerce turned a cold face to Wheat Board method of marketing Western Canada's surplus grain. Representatives from the Edmonton Chamber of Commerce put up a vigorous fight on behalf of Wheat Board system of grain marketing, and was supported by delegates from a few rural areas in Alberta, but the main body of the convention stood firmly for "free enterprise" and against government participation in grain marketing.

The Canadian Wheat Board is in operation today because the great majority of western grain producers want that system of marketing. The board has demonstrated its usefulness over many years. From 1951-52 to 1954-55 it exported close to a billion and a quarter bushels of wheat. Were it not for the fact that production exceeded normal figures by an average of 150,000,000 bushels a year, there would not be any big surplus of wheat in Canada at the present time.

The operations of the Canadian Wheat Board over the past five years has saved thousands of grain producers in the prairie provinces from ruin. Under any other system of marketing the prices of wheat and other grains would now be at "fire sale" levels and western agriculture would be wallowing in a depression comparable to the black years of the 1930's.

Chamber of Commerce people fail to appreciate what is going on in the world's grain trade at the present time. Governments are involved in grain marketing and farm price supports in virtually every important nation in the world. There is no such thing as freedom in marketing. There is not a single grain exchange operating freely in the world today.

The attitude of the Canadian Chamber of Commerce on this matter is a kick in the teeth for the grain producers of Western Canada. The Chamber can do better for the farmers of the west if its members will keep down the cost of the goods and services farmers must buy to keep in business. It's the high cost of operation which is hanging, like the sword of Damocles, over the heads of the farm people.

* * *

Premier Frost, of Ontario, explained to the Dominion-Provincial conference that, while his province is rich, it costs more for the rich to live than it does for the poor.

* * *

The rise in interest rates put into effect by the Bank of Canada suggests that the government is concerned over the possibility that the present boom is proceeding at too fast a pace. The same conditions prevail in other western nations.

* * *

The province of Saskatchewan is maintaining its lead as one of the world's greatest wheat producing regions. The current wheat production of that province is placed at 300,000,000 bushels.

Discussing crop Insurance and P.F.A.A.

A CROP insurance scheme is too expensive for one province to undertake. That is the conclusion reached by a royal commission which has been studying the proposal for the province of Manitoba. There are too many risks to farming for any plan that can be devised.

The present Prairie Farmers' Assistance Act, passed by the federal government in 1939, provides the only protection against crop failure in the west. It is financed by a levy of one per cent on all deliveries of wheat, oats, barley and rye, with the federal treasury making up any deficit.

The plan has been in operation for sixteen years. During that period \$178,973,276.90 has been paid to farmers who have suffered crop failures. The amount collected under the 1 per cent levy was \$88,750,952.10, up to July 31 last, so that the federal treasury was called upon to provide \$90,222,324.80.

The province of Manitoba feels that the P.F.A.A. plan does not work out very favorably for its farmers, who have paid in more than they have taken out. The following table of collections and payments, supplied by the head office of the P.F.A.A. in Regina, gives a concise picture of the collections and distributions by provinces.

	Collected from farmers	Paid out by P.F.A.A.
Manitoba	\$13,625,809.92	\$ 9,030,677.77
Saskatchewan	49,712,252.50	126,842,181.58
Alberta	25,392,993.17	42,727,162.80

British Columbia came under the act in 1947 and since then payments to farmers in that province totalled \$373,254.75.

It is obvious from the above table that Manitoba farmers have benefitted to a much lesser extent from this plan than have the farmers in Saskatchewan and Alberta, and they are not consoled by the fact that Manitoba has fewer crop failures than have its sister provinces to the west.

The act provides for the payment of \$2.50 an acre where the wheat yield is less than 4 bushels to the acre, and \$1.50 an acre where the yield is 4 to 8 bushels. Payment is based on one half the cultivated acreage, and the maximum is on 200 acres, so the most any one farmer can get is \$500. To qualify for payment the farmer must be located in a crop failure area 18 sections in extent.

Experiences in the United States in the crop insurance field would seem to bear out the conclusion of the Manitoba commission that any comprehensive plan is much too expensive for successful operation. The Canadian plan provided by the Prairie Farmers' Assistance Act seems to have worked fairly satisfactory, notwithstanding Manitoba's complaints. A real problem may have to be faced, however, if a drouth cycle, such as was experienced in the 1930's, returns to the west.

* * *

The earliest record of the plow is from Chinese traditions which state that the implement was invented by Shennung who lived in 2837-2697 B.C. and taught the art of agriculture and the medicinal use of herbs. He is the Chinese god of agriculture and medicine.

Will lake shipping costs come down?

HON. LIONEL CHEVRIER, president of the St. Lawrence Seaway Authority, told an Edmonton audience that the seaway, when completed, will bring about a substantial reduction in the transportation of grain. He said the transshipment of grain from lake carriers to smaller vessels going down the St. Lawrence would be avoided, thus reducing the expense of that operation.

Theoretically that may be true. But if lake shipping is restricted to boats built and owned in Canada and manned by Canadian sailors it won't be true. There would then be no outside competition and the experience is that, as a general rule, when competition is restricted to Canadian corporations there is no competition. There is always the excuse of "higher costs" and there is no incentive to lower such costs.

★

The urgent need for scientific research

THE present urge throughout the world is for increased scientific research. There is a scarcity of both scientists and engineers and leading nations are concerned that the supply, both in quality and quantity, is not what it should be.

The Canadian agricultural industry urgently needs qualified scientists to continue and expand research work. Agriculture is becoming more specialized and the modern successful farmer is a highly efficient operator. But he needs the assistance of the highly-trained agricultural scientist to solve many problems and make farm operations more efficient.

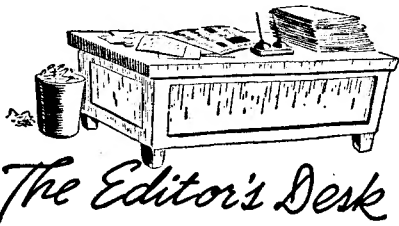
The time has gone by when the work of the agricultural scientist was sneered at as "book farming". While it may not have been known at the time, Dr. Saunders dispelled that idea when he developed Marquis wheat, which enabled farmers in the prairie provinces to devote 30,000,000 more acres to that grain.

Since then wheat production has been substantially increased through the introduction of new early-maturing, disease-resisting varieties. It is said that these new varieties have increased farm income by \$25,700,000 a year. Because of the price variation that statement may be subject to dispute, but still the increased production has been achieved.

The national level of research expenditure in the United States has reached approximately three billions a year, as much as the U.S. government budget was a quarter of a century ago. That shows the urgency of the need of scientific research. Agriculture cannot take a back seat in this trend and particularly Canadian agriculture.

* * *

A Montreal industrialist told the annual meeting of the Canadian Chamber of Commerce that free trade may be all right as a theory but, with conditions as they now exist throughout the world, Canada would be foolish to adopt such a policy. The same situation prevails in the grain trade. With conditions presently existing throughout the world it would be suicidal for Canada to attempt an "open market" experiment.



Armistice Day

Blow out, you bugle, over the rich dead!

There's none of these so lonely and poor of old,

But, dying, has made us rarer gifts than gold.

These laid the world away; poured out the red

Sweet wine of youth; gave up the hope of years to be

Of work and joy, and that unhopéd serene

That men call age; and those who would have been

Their sons, they gave — their immortality.

—Rupert Brooke.

In listing the population of Canadian provinces in the last issue, that of Manitoba was left out. The figure is 849,000.

Would like the opinion of readers as to the interest the crossword puzzle commands. How many like the puzzle?

The conference on marketing staged by "top hands" of the Canadian and American governments at Ottawa, turned out to be a flop as far as Canada is concerned. The United States is going ahead with its plan for getting rid of its wheat surplus no matter how.

Readers will remember that a picture of Mrs. Lilian A. Palser was printed in a recent issue, along with a story of her hobby of spinning wool from her own sheep and making clothing therefrom. Mrs. Palser, whose post office address is Spirit River, Alberta, writes that she has received over 100 letters from people wanting wool, yarn and sweaters. As she is alone and kept pretty busy with her own work she cannot possibly supply the demand nor has she the time to answer all the letters. She asked me to thank those who wrote her and she hopes they will appreciate the position she is in.

PRICES — 117 YEARS AGO

The other day I came across a reprint of menu from a downtown hotel in San Francisco, "the place to go for simple but good food." The date on the menu was 1838. Some of the prices:

Steak	25c
Mutton chops	18c
Welsh rarebit, ale included ..	12c
Poached eggs	12c
Pork chops	18c
Bread and cheese	6c
Sandwiches	6c
Ale to families, qt.	8c

In another hotel, quite an up-to-date place, the rate for a single room for a night's lodging ran from 25c to 50c.

Prices today are about ten times the amounts listed above. Wages and salaries appear to be about ten times what they were in 1838.

Is the dog chasing his tail or the tail chasing the dog?

The Dominion-Provincial conference did not reach any decision over tax rental agreements. Another session will be held later on. The federal government's favored plan is for it to collect provincial income, corporation and inheritance taxes and to refund to each province a sum calculated on \$31.78 per capita. The federal treasury would make up the difference of what those three taxes would bring to each province and the \$31.78 figure. Manitoba would thus get \$14.48 per capita from the federal treasury; Saskatchewan, \$20.26; Alberta, \$12.59, and B.C., \$1.92. Ontario would get nothing from the federal treasury.

Milk is the best natural food

MILK is probably the best of all natural foods. It is vitally important that growing children should always have an ample supply available and they should be encouraged to drink milk. Milk drinking is the basis for the development of a tall, sturdy race.

Older people need milk, too, and the average span of life in advanced countries has been increased by ten years because people there drink six times more milk than they did fifty years ago.

At the University of Chicago it was found that all dairy products, cheese, milk, and buttermilk, will tend to lengthen life. They experimented on rats, whose digestive systems are much like humans. And rats given a big supply of milk lived 20 per cent longer than those on a milkless diet.

The conclusion reached is that every person, young and old, should drink more milk for their own good. Older people need it, for they need calcium in their diets, and whole milk supplies 57.1 per cent of the calcium requirements of Canadian people.

It will thus be seen that Canada's dairy industry is very important to the people of this Dominion, for it supplies an abundance of good, clean milk — about 1,627,000,000 gallons of it — each year, which is 125 million gallons more than was produced in 1951.

The Canadian dairy herd totals 3,312,000 head — about one cow for every five people. The number of cows has increased by 400,000 in the past five years.

The gross value of the production of the nation's dairy industry was \$900,000,000 last year, and 17 per cent of the population is dependent upon the industry for a livelihood. It is plain that the dairy industry is not an unimportant, obscure branch of Canadian agriculture.

Canada is a northern nation and the climatic conditions make dairying much more expensive here than in almost any other important country in the world. In New Zealand and Australia dairy cows are pastured in the open the year round, with no expensive stabling required and no stores of winter feeds to provide. It is probably true that dairy cows are stabled and winter-fed longer in Canada than in any other important dairy nation in the world. That costs Canadian dairy people much extra money.

Even at that milk is not expensive from a comparative standpoint. It requires only nine minutes of work for the average Canadian tradesman to buy a quart of milk. Fifteen years ago it took 15½ minutes of work. No type of food is more important to health and nutrition than milk products and no type of food should receive more emphasis in the future of Canada or, for that matter, in the rest of the world.

How times have changed for the better!



Not so very many years ago, people with a history of certain ailments or diseases were unable to buy the life insurance they needed. Often, this resulted in considerable hardship for their families. But today . . . thanks to the results of new knowledge and research in controlling diseases, many such people are now accepted by life insurance companies — and can provide their families with vital financial protection.

This is another example of the many ways in which the life insurance companies in Canada have advanced with the times . . . offering better service to Canadians in all walks of life!

THE LIFE INSURANCE COMPANIES IN CANADA

Comprising more than 50 Canadian, British, United States and Netherlands Companies

Agricultural prospects on Queen Charlotte Islands

By P. W. LUCE

CANADA'S farthest west outpost, the Queen Charlotte Islands, may have a chance to emerge from the role of Cinderella into which they seem to have been cast by nature. Rev. Lloyd Hooper has outlined a plan to develop a large area on the east coast and so turn a long stretch of muck-soil into productive farms.

Two important hurdles still have to be overcome. They are drainage, which will cost a lot of money, and transportation, which is assured as soon as produce is ready for market.

Mr. Hooper is a missionary, but he is not a visionary. In his early life he was a practical farmer, and he holds an agricultural degree from Ontario Agricultural College. He has been stationed on Graham Island for three years. During his considerable

travels he has studied the soils along the 60-mile length of his parish and for 20 miles inland, and on the whole he has found it very good.

Outlining his plan for development while a delegate at a United Church conference in Vancouver, Mr. Hooper said:

"There is a vast farming potential in the black muck soils of Graham Island, the northernmost of the nine islands which form the large group of the Queen Charlottes. There can be ample pasturage for cattle, for grass and clover grow abundantly. Vegetables do very well. Some of the potatoes would have been prize-winners at any district fair; they were as big, meaty, and well-shaped as I have ever seen either in Ontario or in British Columbia.

"All that land needs is drainage. On the whole the cultivated areas are swampy, and money is needed to build ditches and dams.

"Transportation is also a major

problem. There are not enough farmers now raising marketable stuff to make it worth while for cargo boats to cater to them, and fish boats are not altogether satisfactory. If we could get enough farmers we would get enough boats, and if we could get enough boats we would get enough farmers. That's a problem that can be solved only by money.

"Group settlement is likely to be the answer. This was tried out about years ago, and it seemed to be getting along all right. Then the First World War came along, and that was the end of the settlement scheme."

Mr. Hooper believes conditions are about ripe for a renewal of the settlement scheme. The Queen Charlotte Islands are no longer as isolated as they were in 1912. Vancouver is only a couple of hours away by air. A comprehensive road system links all the important settlements together. There are enough public

schools to serve the various districts adequately, and some hospital can be reached in a few hours by road or water. Both protestant and catholic churches and missions look after the spiritual needs of the people, and community services are active. Electricity is supplied in some places by the B.C. Power Commission, and extensions are proposed for the near future.

The Queen Charlotte group lies about 150 miles north of the northern tip of Vancouver Island, and approximately 350 miles from Nanaimo, Victoria and Vancouver, its important future markets. Prince Rupert is about 60 miles northeast of Masset, the "metropolis" of Graham Island.

The second island of considerable size is Moresby Island, but the group consists of about 150 islands, mostly uninhabitable. The nine larger islands have an area of 3,885 square miles. The distance from Langara Island in the north to Cape St. James in the south is 150 miles, and the width varies from 50 miles to a couple of miles.

The southern part of the group is mountainous and covered with timber, and does not offer many attractions to settlers. Higher up, Graham Island is flat and, in the interior, presents a prairie-like appearance.

An official estimate places the arable land at 400,000 acres, but much of this is frequently covered with water or requires expensive clearing. The rainfall is fairly high, even for British Columbia, which gets from 50 to 60 inches of rain a year.

Seven hundred Indians were reported living on the Queen Charlotte Islands at a recent census, but they were more interested in fishing than in farming. Of the 3,500 acres marked out as Indian reserves, the area under cultivation was insignificant. The property value was fixed at \$250,000 at the last check, but has probably increased of late.

Dutch Legume tried for new forage crop

By P. W. LUCE

BROUGHT from Holland, a yellow-flowered lupin known as the "Nevan" is being tried out as a green-manure crop at the University of British Columbia. The showings have been very satisfactory.

This legume shows a thick, even growth of green matter about three feet tall and produces a good crop. The seed is comparatively cheap, and no important academic project is involved in the growth of Nevan, but it is hoped that it will improve the low humus content of the university farm.

Another new legume is the "Burnet," which looks like a weed, but does not spread so rapidly. The plant is known in northern British Columbia, but is not equal to that grown in Europe. Botanically, it is related to the strawberry. A perennial, it is tap-rooted like alfalfa. Cattle like it. The yield is from four to five tons per acre.

Dr. C. V. Brink, the university's forage specialist, is trying to develop alfalfa strains resistant to "witch's broom" and alfalfa wilt. These scourges have been bad on some of the northern ranches, where nearly 100% of the alfalfa crop has been lost.

So far, the only interim solution is heavier seeding, running up to ten or 12 pounds per acre. The usual seeding is four pounds.

The lack of male sterile blooms in some kinds of alfalfa is also being studied. It is expected to overcome this by producing hybrid alfalfa, with correspondingly heavier yields.



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Whenever you're working out your farm plans, feel free to come in and discuss them with your Royal Bank Manager. He knows a lot about farming matters, especially the financial side. So regular chats with him can be very much to your advantage. Drop in next time you are near the branch. He'll be glad to see you.

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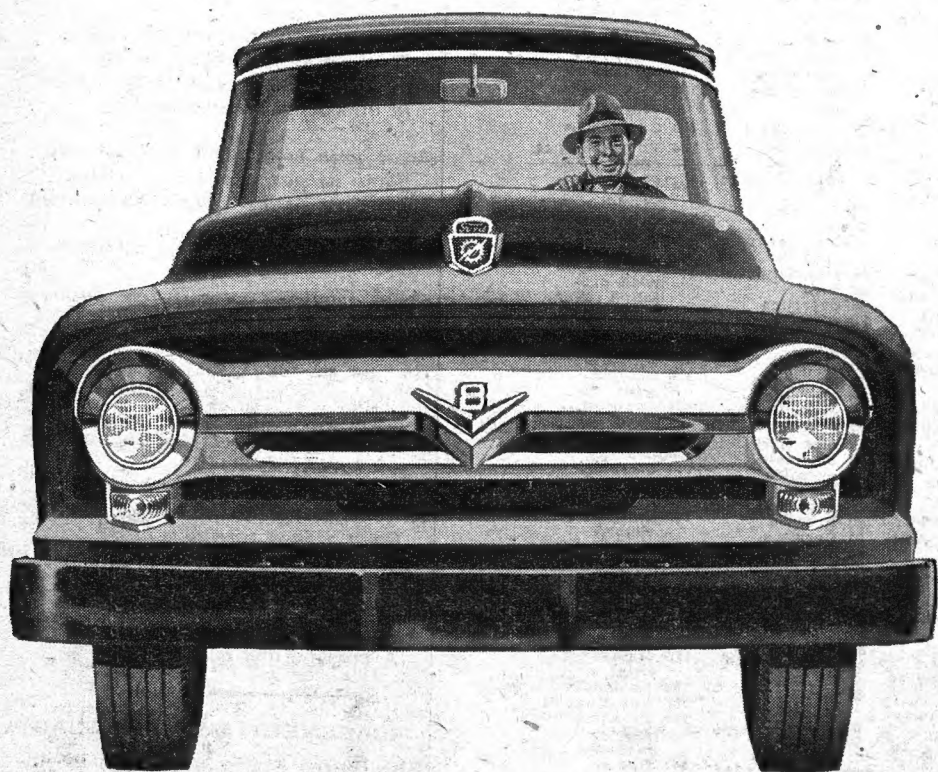
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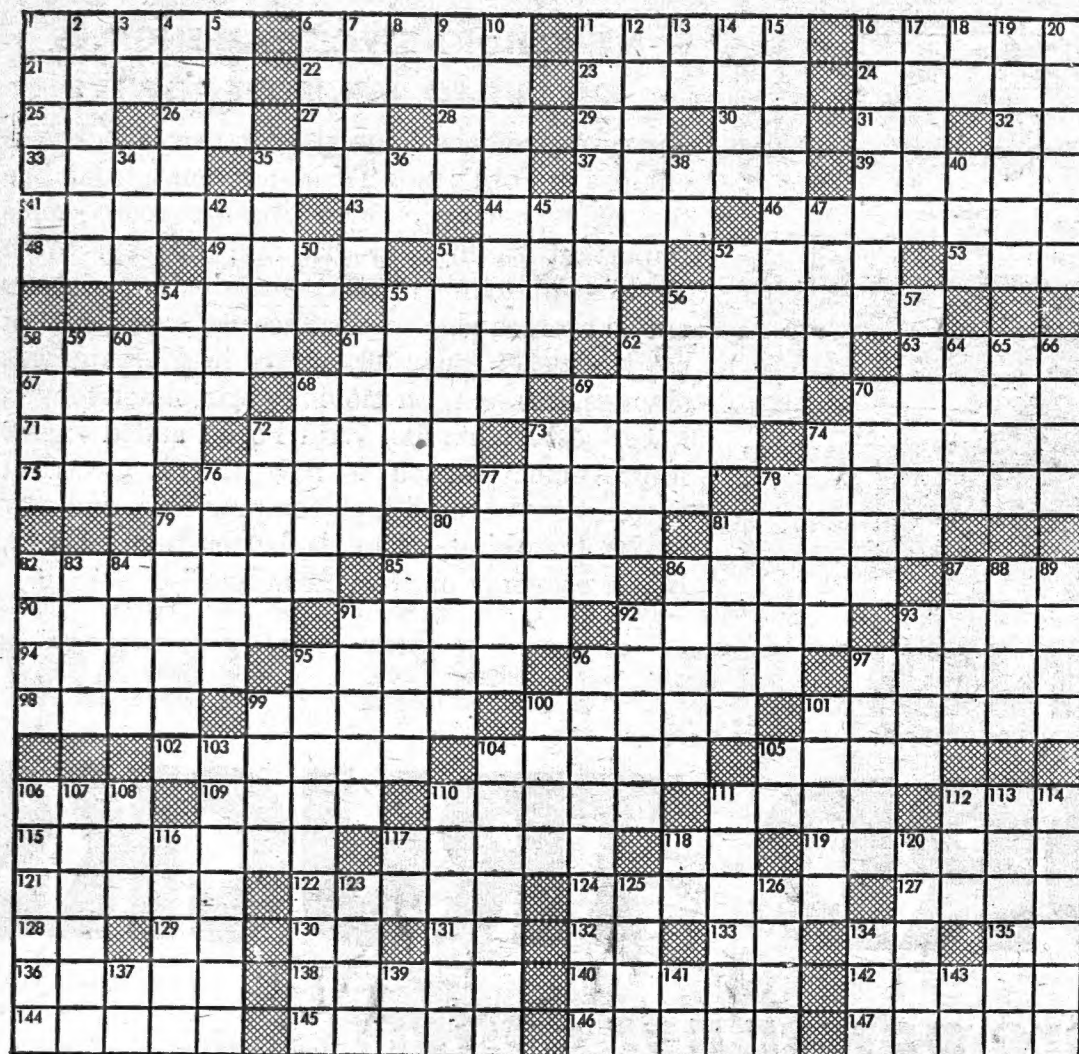
New G.V.W. and G.C.W. ratings for all series from F-250 up boost payload capacities to an all-time high! For '56 there's a new F-100 8-Ft. Express that's ideal for light-bulky farm hauling. New, thicker brake linings on many models give longer brake life; stronger clutches last longer on rugged service; new higher-capacity tubeless tires run cooler, give more mileage, resist punctures and blowouts! Famous Ford automatic transmission now available on all light-duty models, including F-350 with dual rear wheels!



(Certain features mentioned are "Standard" on some models, optional at extra cost on others.)

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Our Crossword Puzzle



Segregate pullets

IT is important, says Robert H. McMillan, Alberta's Poultry Commissioner, to remember that under no circumstances should pullets be housed with older birds. If yearlings and pullets are to be housed in the same house erect a wire partition to keep the two ages separated.

Overcrowding is one of the greatest problems in the poultry industry. The standard recommendation of 3 sq. ft. of floor space per light bird housed, or 4 sq. ft. per heavy bird is a guide. These allowances may be reduced somewhat depending on such factors as size and shape of pen and management of flock. However, if these floor allowances are cut by much, they are cut at the poultryman's expense.

These factors are uppermost in the minds of poultrymen as they prepare for the housing of early pullets says Mr. McMillan. Before the pullets are moved from the range into the laying house the house should have a thorough cleaning and washing with a disinfectant solution. The nests, roosts, dropping boards and floor should be well scraped and sprayed with the disinfectant. This is also the time to make any necessary alterations and repairs to the house.

After the fresh air of the range it is important advises Mr. McMillan to have plenty of ventilation in the laying house as a shortage of fresh air at this time may result in colds for the pullets. Screen doors and windows will provide the necessary ventilation in the laying house.

Pullets well reared, fed a balanced ration, placed in a clean, disinfected, bright house will do well and produce a profit.

Range Laws

You don't need very many laws
To keep the rangeland straight;
Nor book to write them in, because
There's only six or eight.

The first one is the welcome sign,
Wrote deep in western hearts.
My camp is yours, and yours is mine,
In all cow country parts.

Treat with respect all womankind,
Same as you would your sister.
Take care of neighbor's strays' you find,
And don't call cowboys "Mister".

Close pasture gates when passing through,
And taken all in all,
Be just as rough as pleases you,
But never mean or small.

Talk straight, shoot straight, and do not break
Your word to man or boss.
Always plumb kill a rattlesnake;
Don't ride a soreback hoss.

You don't need law, or pedigree,
To live the best you can,
And this is all it takes to be
A cowboy and a man.

AGREEMENT MAY HIT SNAG

The United States will not enter another International Wheat Agreement unless Great Britain does the same. This information was forthcoming from Washington. The present agreement expires on August 1, 1956. Great Britain refused to enter the present agreement because of disagreement with a ceiling price of \$2.05 insisted upon by the U.S.A. The British might have agreed to a \$2.00 ceiling.

- HORIZONTAL**
- 1 The color beige
 - 6 To celebrate in song
 - 11 Religious hymn
 - 16 Narrow openings
 - 21 To rent again
 - 22 Dark reddish brown
 - 23 A plexus (pl.)
 - 24 Country of Asia
 - 25 A thoroughfare (abbr.)
 - 26 A direction
 - 27 Indian mulberry
 - 28 Street (abbr.)
 - 29 Preposition
 - 30 Printer's measure
 - 31 Cooled lava
 - 32 Near (abbr.)
 - 33 Corruption
 - 35 Backfield star with Chicago Cardinals
 - 37 Demeanors
 - 39 To invest
 - 41 Kind of beetle
 - 43 Therefore
 - 44 Linden (pl.)
 - 46 A measure of an eighth of a yard (pl.)
 - 48 To allow
 - 49 Headstrong
 - 51 Give curative care and treatment to
 - 52 Pulverized
 - 53 Roman bronze
 - 54 To drink heavily
 - 55 An ingate in founding
 - 56 Inclinations
 - 58 Swift, obstructed part of stream
 - 61 American Indians
 - 62 Closes securely
 - 63 Ardor
 - 67 Nimble
 - 68 Predatory incursions
 - 69 Sober
 - 70 Keen
 - 71 Arrow poison
 - 72 Grievously
 - 73 Gem
 - 74 Gushes
 - 75 Accomplished
 - 76 To carp
 - 77 Entreats
 - 78 A sovereign mistress
 - 79 Stories
 - 80 Glasses of certain beverage (pl.)
 - 81 Steps over fence
 - 82 A company of travelers
 - 85 To conjecture
 - 86 Musical instrument
 - 87 Brazilian coin
 - 90 Piled
 - 91 Demolishes
 - 92 Part of knife
 - 93 Mountain lake
 - 94 Sign of the Zodiac
 - 95 Cruises
 - 96 ---- in Wonderland
 - 97 Straightforward
 - 98 Below
 - 99 Damp
 - 100 Publicity writer (slang)
 - 101 Cleared space in a forest (pl.)
 - 102 A chief commodity of a place
 - 104 Sprightly
 - 105 Very reticent person
 - 106 One of a low Sudra caste in India
 - 109 Ventilates
 - 110 Rain and snow
 - 111 Line of juncture
 - 112 River island
 - 115 Feminine name
 - 117 Luster
 - 118 River of Italy
 - 119 Rules
 - 121 Work of fiction
 - 122 Approaches
 - 124 Displaying shrewd discernment
 - 127 To wander
 - 128 Teutonic deity
 - 129 Verse (abbr.)
 - 130 Kind of fish
 - 131 Exists
 - 132 Chinese measure
 - 133 Symbol for ruthenium
 - 134 Child for father
 - 135 Pronoun
 - 136 Ascribe
 - 138 To do military service
 - 140 Genus of the true heath
 - 142 Prepares for print
 - 144 Smells
 - 145 Attempted
 - 146 A number
 - 147 Indian tent

- VERTICAL**
- 1 Small rocks and sand
 - 2 Villify
 - 3 North Syrian deity
 - 4 Civetlike animal
 - 5 French for "summer"
 - 6 Former Russian ruler
 - 7 Characteristic flavor
 - 8 Opera (abbr.)
 - 9 Speech defect
 - 10 Freedom from narrow limits (pl.)
 - 11 Pledge
 - 12 Characteristic of old age
 - 13 By
 - 14 Charge upon property
 - 15 City in Ohio
 - 16 Discolored
 - 17 Chinese weight unit
 - 18 River of Asia
 - 19 Term
 - 20 Strain
 - 24 Feline
 - 25 Snakes
 - 36 River of Italy
 - 38 Plural ending
 - 40 Goddess (L.)
 - 42 To eat away
 - 45 Unit of energy (pl.)
 - 47 Hotels
 - 50 A direction
 - 51 Poverty-stricken
 - 52 Fragile
 - 54 Thin piece of fired clay
 - 55 Warble
 - 56 Rips
 - 57 Safe
 - 58 Predatory incursion
 - 59 Vedic fire god
 - 60 Variegated
 - 61 Inferior
 - 62 Remains
 - 63 Balt
 - 65 Siamese coin (pl.)
 - 66 Headland
 - 68 Bird
 - 69 Scorches
 - 70 A fruit
 - 72 Vegetable dish
 - 73 Squeeze
 - 74 To strike
 - 76 Subterranean cavities
 - 77 Part of hammer (pl.)
 - 78 Musical exercise
 - 79 Small candles
 - 80 Erected
 - 81 Careless
 - 82 To scorch
 - 83 An airplane
 - 84 Non-Moslem subject of Ottoman empire
 - 85 Appearance
 - 86 Throw with a jerk
 - 87 Electric catfish
 - 88 Sea eagle
 - 89 Writing fluids
 - 91 Shore birds
 - 92 Explosion
 - 93 British street car
 - 95 A treble singer
 - 96 Estranges
 - 97 Fire
 - 99 Principal
 - 100 Untrammelled
 - 101 To shine brightly
 - 103 Bushelmen
 - 104 To pronounce holy
 - 105 Symbol for cerium
 - 106 U.S. open golf champion 1936
 - 107 Worshipped with profound reverence
 - 108 Gold monetary unit of Bulgaria
 - 110 To free from guilt
 - 111 Fountainhead
 - 112 Gone by
 - 113 Bid
 - 114 Sleeping sickness fly
 - 116 Pry
 - 117 Continent (abbr.)
 - 118 Symbol for platinum
 - 120 Sultan's decree
 - 123 River of Germany
 - 125 Certain
 - 126 Malaysian title: sir
 - 134 To fondle
 - 137 The Buddha
 - 139 Japanese marine measure
 - 141 Roman number
 - 143 installment paid

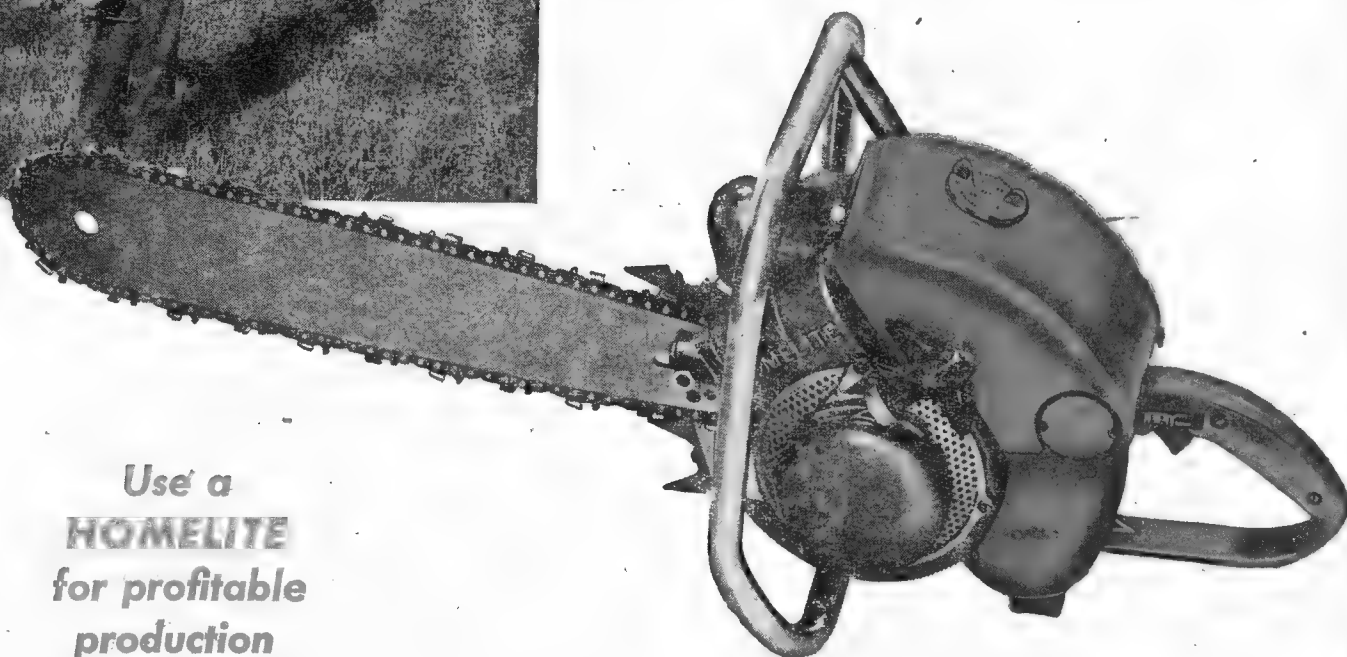
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lower maintenance.*

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Alberta's Master Farm Families



(Alberta Government Photograph)

Mr. and Mrs. F. E. M. Robinson of Pincher Creek, head of the 1955 Master Farm Family for southern Alberta.



(Alberta Government Photograph)

Mr. and Mrs. Chris Schneider of Vegreville, head of the 1955 Master Farm Family for northern Alberta.

THREE rural Alberta families have been selected as Master Farm Families for 1955, according to an announcement made today by Hon. L. C. Halmrast, Minister of Agriculture.

This year's winners are:

F. E. M. Robinson Family, Pincher Creek.

B. O. Brown Family, Acme.

Chris Schneider Family, Vegreville.

Each family will receive an award of \$1,000, an engraved plaque, and a Master Farm Family name plate for their farmstead entrance. This is the seventh year that the program has been sponsored by the Alberta Department of Agriculture.

The main objective of the program is to provide Alberta farmers with a practical demonstration of how a family can achieve success in farming and in family and community life. The awards are based upon the concepts of good farming, right living, and clear thinking. In all cases, winning families provide excellent demonstrations of the value of proper farm management in shaping a happy and fruitful life.

The B. A. Brown Farm Family

The B. O. Brown farm family, of Acme, 50 miles northeast of Calgary, selected as a Master Farm Family for 1955, operate what is perhaps one of the most specialized turkey farms in the province. They raise 15,000 Bronze Broad Breasted turkeys a year and sell over 120,000 hatching eggs each season, besides cultivating 600 acres of land.

Mr. Brown, a graduate in agriculture from the University of Minnesota, arrived in Alberta in 1924 with virtually no capital but with courage and foresight. He bought his present farm in 1925, assisted by a substantial loan.

Two sons, Jack and Murray, have taken an active part in farm work. Jack, 28, graduated from the University of Alberta with a master of science degree in agriculture and now owns a broiler plant in Midnapore marketing 24,000 fryers a year. He is also president and part owner of a killing plant in Calgary.

Murray, now 25, works in partnership with his father, directing farm operations, while his father is acting in a supervisory role. Murray received his B.Sc. from the University of Alberta. Both boys earned most of

the money required for their university educations from raising pigs.

Daughter Dorothy is employed as secretary for a firm of engineering consultants in Calgary.

The Browns ventured in turkey raising after an unfortunate experience with hogs. The farm was marketing around 1,200 of those animals a year when the herd was hit with rhinitis in 1944 - 46 so Mr. Brown decided to get out of hogs for two years. Mrs. Brown had been raising turkeys as a sideline, with fair profit, so the family decided to go into the turkey business in a big way. They operate their turkey farm like a factory is run and have achieved outstanding success.

The farm home is equipped with modern appliances and fixtures, is electrified, has hot and cold running water and an oil furnace. A spacious lawn, surrounded by a protective shelterbelt, surrounding the house. Flower beds, clusters of shrubbery, and a looping gravel drive, add attractiveness to the pleasant white stucco home.

Both Mr and Mrs. Brown, Sr., have a record of community service which in itself is admirable. Mr. Brown has

participated in the activities of many local civic and farm organizations. He is past president of the Alberta Turkey Federation, Acme Board of Trade, local U.F.A. and past leader of Acme 4-H Club member of Livestock Board, and past director at large and director of Alberta Section, Poultry Products Institute.

By unsparing use of their varied talents towards their work, their children and the community, Mr. and Mrs. Brown have a rich and rewarding life to reflect on and have directed their children along a path toward that same goal.

The Schneider Farm Family

The Chris. Schneider family, of Vegreville, won the accolade of Master Farm Family for Northern Alberta for 1955. The Schneider farm is located 6 miles northeast of Vegreville, and consists of 600 acres of rich dark loam, carefully farmed and highly productive. The farm buildings are attractive and a protective belt of trees set them off.

Mr. Schneider came from Russia with his parents in 1896, and settled at Josephburg, 30 miles northeast of Edmonton. He shared the experiences of pioneer farming with his

parents and then in 1915, the year he was married, bought a ½ section of land near Mundare which he cleared and broke. This was later sold and a section of land purchased in the Vegreville district. Husband and wife worked long hours, clearing off the trees and breaking the land. They had their ups and downs, ventured into the purchase of a threshing outfit for custom work, did custom breaking and endured the tough depression years.

Now the Schneiders have a fine farm, well-equipped, fully mechanized and smartly operated. They have 30 head of Holsteins, winter about 50 feeder steers, market about 100 hogs each year and keep 200 Sussex hens.

A rotation of three grain crops followed by one of fallow is followed, which controls weed infestation. Seventy acres of land are seeded to hay crops each year, maintaining the organic material and insuring supplies of livestock feed.

The family have three children, Myrtle 34 (Mrs. Dr. Allison MacDonald), who, with her husband, were stationed six years in India as Baptist missionaries, now living in Toronto; Cora, 30, and Walter, 25, both at home taking an active part in farm operations.

The home is fully modernized and fruit trees around the house and small fruits in the garden provide additions to the family menu as well as a beautiful setting.

Mr. and Mrs. Schneider have had to work hard to achieve their objective, but in doing this they have always found time to partake in community activities. Each taking their share of responsibility in the governing of community affairs. In addition to being chairman of the local school board for four years and trustee for five years, Mr. Schneider is a member, director or shareholder of seven different local organizations. Mrs. Schneider is an active participant in local farm women's organizations, and other community groups. Both husband and wife are members of the Baptist and Moravian church.

The Robinson Farm Family

The Master Family award for Southern Alberta was won by the F. E. M. Robinson family, owners of the 16,000-acre "Alberta Ranch" in the picturesque Pincher Creek foothill country in the southwest corner of



(Alberta Government Photograph)

Mr. and Mrs. B. O. Brown who have farmed in the Acme district since 1925, are head of the 1955 Master Farm Family for east-central Alberta.

the province. This is the oldest ranch in Alberta, having been established in 1883. The Robinsons have 575 head of Hereford cattle on the farm of which 250 are purebreds. About 1,000 acres are devoted to field crops, 600 of that being in forage crops.

Mr. Robinson was born in Milwaukee in 1893, obtained a degree in mechanical engineering from Cambridge University, England, in 1920, and came to Alberta from his Quebec dairy farm in 1942. When he took over the Alberta ranch it was a down-at-the-heel outfit. It is now a model place, the old ranch house having been completely renovated and a spacious 10-room addition constructed, modern in every respect.

All the old farm buildings have been renovated and 108 miles of fencing erected.

Mr. Robinson gives full credit to his wife for the ranch's present beauty and prosperity. Mrs. Robinson, a colleen from Ireland, crossed the Atlantic in 1928 and met her future husband in Quebec and they were married in 1929. They have three children, Evan, 23, Deirdre (Mrs. Nick Lane) 21, and Moira, 10.

Mr. Robinson takes an active part in community life and has held many positions of importance in agricultural organizations. He works 15 hours a day and follows the latest and most scientific methods in his farming operations. The ranch is equipped with a full spread of machinery and a farm shop is maintained for servicing same. His hobby is horticulture and he maintains a fully equipped greenhouse.

In applying such a constructive, reasoned philosophy to farm life to make the dilapidated Alberta Ranch prosper in face of all the difficulties associated with such a task, and in winning the respect and good will of their neighbors for good sense and good living, the Robinsons have merited the Master Farm Family award for Southern Alberta.

Farm mechanics course

A TWO months farm mechanics course is being conducted by the extension department of the University of Saskatchewan, commencing October 31. The course will be put on at the Canadian Vocational Training school.

The course will be repeated from January 3 to February 24th.

For information and application forms write to L. C. Paul, Extension Department, University of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon, Sask.

The course is available to farmers 16 years old and over. There is no tuition fee and all tools are provided. Applications for the second course should be received by December 23rd.

Instruction will be in practical shop work, accompanied by lectures. The course includes maintenance and repair of motors and tractors, and farm implements; farm carpentry, electricity, metal work, welding, etc.

The course also includes lectures on the principles of successful farm operation, selection of equipment, land use, weed control, home water systems, management for general efficiency, etc.

SELLING PRICE OF WHEAT

On October 1st the Wheat Board cut the price of 1, 2 and 3 northern wheat by 3c a bushel and 4 northern by 4c. The selling price now is: 1 nor., \$1.72; 2 nor., \$1.69; 3 nor. \$1.66, and 4 nor., \$1.61 basis Fort William and Vancouver.

FARM OUTLOOK for 1956

THE following is a summary of the Canadian agricultural outlook for 1956, as prepared by the Canadian Federation of Agriculture.

It is very unlikely that grain prices will be strong in 1956. Under pressure from large surplus stocks in the United States they are more likely to be weak.

Supplies of cattle and hogs will increase and prices will likely average a little lower than this year.

Milk production over the next year or so will probably remain at present levels (1955) or go a little higher. On the basis of present disposal policies butter stocks will continue to increase over the next 12 months. The international market for dairy products may improve in 1956.

Egg production will continue to fall below last year's production until the early spring of 1956. After that increasing supplies are likely to result in lower prices for eggs.

Taking agriculture as a whole it would appear that the index number of the general level of prices of farm products will likely fall a little more in 1956. With a continuation of the rise in business activity farm costs will not decline. Thus the parity price position of agriculture will likely move a little lower in 1956.

Alberta herefords

THE Alberta Hereford Association has produced a jubilee brochure giving the history of the breed for fifty years in Alberta. L. W. Bond, past president of the association, produced the booklet and it contains a mass of interesting material and illustrations. The one criticism — the printing might have been better.

The introduction starts out: "It is doubtful if anything in the annals of North American agriculture has carved a path as wide, as quickly or as permanent as the breed of cattle known as the Herefords. From being virtually unknown a hundred years ago to a national symbol that is now synonymous with the word 'cattle', Herefords have proven their supremacy and value."

That shows what the Hereford people think of the "white faces!" They're just like the people from Brooklyn. "The Dodgers are world champions!"

What about the backers of the Shorthorns and the Angus cattle!

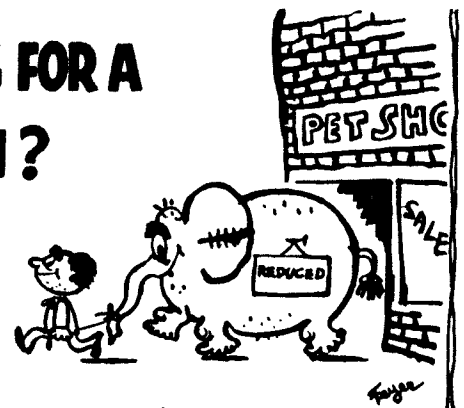
Really, the booklet is interesting. It tells about the pioneer Hereford breeders in Alberta — Frank Collicott, John Wilson, W. A. Crawford-Frost, O. A. Boggs, Arthur Fletcher, Tom Baird, Sam Mace, Simon Downie, William Parslow, and many others. It lists some 140 prominent Hereford breeders of to-day. It gives the history of the breed in North America as far back as 1839. Dozens of illustrations are printed. The booklet is an excellent source for reference and is worth while having.

Charles Jones is now president of the Alberta Hereford Association, Roy Bond is past president and John Wilson, secretary.

* * *

By the end of the present year an additional 7,500 farms in Saskatchewan will have electricity made available to them.

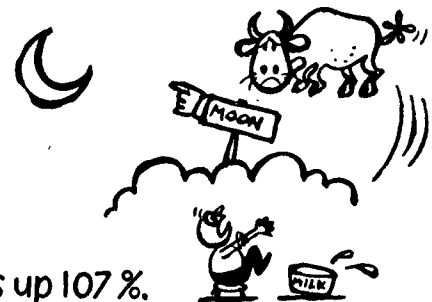
LOOKING FOR A BARGAIN?



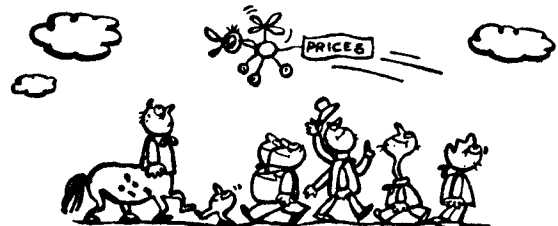
With prices so much higher than they were before the war, bargains are hard to find these days.



For example... materials used in building houses have gone up 179%.



Food is up 107%.



The average wholesale price of all the things people buy has gone up 116% (and those are government figures) but during the same period



the price of gasoline has gone up only 35% (less than one-third of the average).



IMPERIAL OIL LIMITED

Bookkeeping on the farm

By MRS. FRIEDA DEKKER

WHERE do you keep the bills, receipts, letters and so on that come to your house? Stacked precariously on the telephone? Or tucked behind the kitchen mirror? On the window sill? Or perhaps you have a bureau drawer filled to overflowing (kept discreetly closed when visitors call). Maybe you use them as book-marks, or keep them on a nail behind the pantry door. Or do you burn everything immediately, only to find three days later that you can't return Junior's sweater because you haven't got the bill?

The system employed at our house was more or less a grand combination of all above methods, until finally we ran out of space as well as temper! So we decided to try a more business-like arrangement, and went shopping for a file cabinet. We soon found, however, that the lovely large grey steel cabinets you see in offices, though undoubtedly most convenient and desirable, were entirely out of our reach as far as price range was concerned. And of course we did not need anything that elaborate.

We were ready to resort to looking for more nooks and crannies about the house, when we discovered a mail-order file box which was most inexpensive compared to the large office kind. Each drawer could be bought separately and was made of heavy cardboard with a steel front; came unassembled, but was easily put together. It was about twenty-four

inches in length — more than enough room — and had a simple but adequate following block to hold papers upright. We purchased one of these drawers, together with a small quantity of letter-size folders, of which we lettered a set from A to Z, and set up housekeeping. We have since noted small all-metal files complete with alphabetical folders, as well as lock and key, also not expensive, which are much neater and stronger than our drawer, though they are only about six inches in depth and would have only about a quarter of the capacity. It would probably not be too difficult to make some sort of file at home, if one should wish to do so.

Now each letter and receipt, as soon as it is read and dealt with, is put away in its corresponding folder. Left unfolded, and without the envelopes of course, it is surprising how little space these items take.

We soon found it more convenient to have special folders for those items which had to be referred to often, and for garages and stores with which we dealt regularly. For instance we have a folder marked "insurance" and one for "taxes" and another in which we keep all our egg sale receipts. And with say all your gas bills from one garage kept together in one place, it is a simple matter at the end of the month to check their monthly statement should you so desire.

Besides purely business matters, we now have a place to put all those random items of interest — things

one likes to keep but one never knows where, ranging from agricultural bulletins on grass seeding to coupon premium catalogues. There also is a place for instruction pamphlets such as the one that came with our propane brooder stove, and the one dealing with weed spraying. Farm magazines especially contain much useful information worthwhile saving, but unless the articles are readily accessible, there is not much point in doing so. It gives us rather a feeling of accomplishment when, during a conversation, we are able to quickly and easily produce an item relating to the topic being discussed even though it may have been put away half a year previously.

Our file is also expanding in usefulness along other lines we had not thought of originally. For many years, ever since we were married in fact, our big dream has been a new house to replace the drafty old ten-room castle we live in at present. And during this time we have cut countless pictures out of magazines depicting lovely kitchens and bathrooms, modern cabinets and furniture, and so on. Now we have set up a new division in our file drawer, separated from our "business file" by a large sheet of cardboard, and in it we have folders marked "Living Room", "Bedroom"; one for each room of the house, as well as folders for "sewage disposal", "landscaping", "floors", and more. As a result we have an orderly collection of pictures and articles which will not only be valuable when we are ready to build, but which would be impossible, I think, to duplicate in any book we might purchase.

I, too, have my own section for recipes. The large folders make it possible to accommodate all sizes of clippings, including whole pages if desired, and there is no need to cut off the tempting pictures occasionally accompanying the recipe — the incentive I sometimes need to get around to trying the recipe. They eliminate the necessity of pasting the recipes in a scrapbook or of copying them on to cards — something I never manage to find time for, despite good intentions. But even if you prefer to do so, the large folders still make a handy home for the clippings until you have time to deal with them properly.

Besides our file drawer, my husband also keeps a Shannon file with his bookkeeping divided roughly under the same headings as those required on the income tax form — such as custom work, grain sales, etc. When it was time to compute our annual income tax return we found it to be ever so much less work. Most of you will agree that this is a burdensome task at best, and it is not facilitated by inadequate records which is too often the case in farm homes. Think, then, how much easier it is to have all your bills and receipts not only at hand but in order as well.

Our system is not perfect of course and not suited to the demands of everyone. But it has helped us and given us pleasure. Every farm is a business in itself, and surely there is no reason why a farmer, who must specialize in such a wide range of occupations from veterinary to mechanic, should not also keep an efficient set of records, though simple and tailored to his individual need.

You can't rush the calendar

Nature takes her time in yielding the farmer a return on his investment of money and effort. Meanwhile he may need cash for feed or fertilizer or implements; or to re-roof his barn; or buy livestock.

Bank loans let him go ahead with his plans or improvements without waiting for harvest time. Across his local bank manager's desk he talks over the purpose, amount and repayment of the loan. It's a simple, straightforward business transaction involving the use of bank credit to promote enterprise.

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MORTGAGE LOANS

For building your home under the terms of the National Housing Act.

FARM IMPROVEMENT LOANS

For many worthwhile purposes, adding to progress, efficiency and the comfort of farm life.

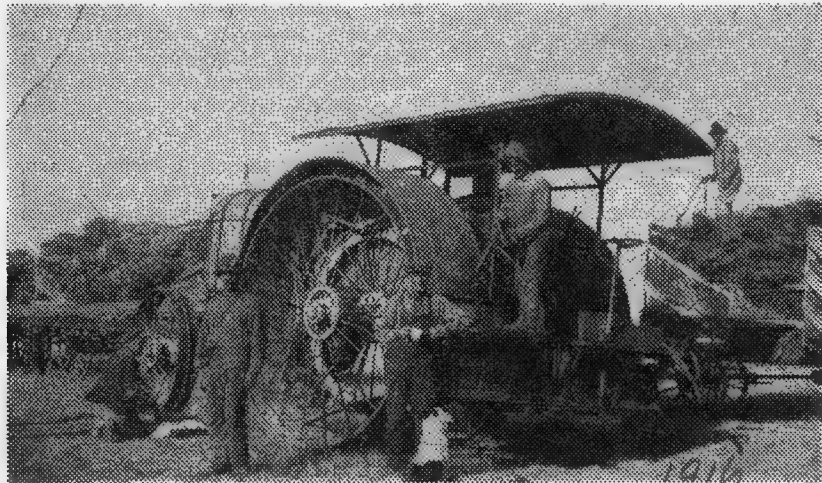
THE CHARTERED BANKS SERVING YOUR COMMUNITY

A famous wagon race

By JIM HANNAFORD,
of Howie

IT happened back in 1915, the year that the country, south of Hanna, Alberta, to the Red Deer river, had a wonderful crop — 50 bushels of wheat to the acre was common. We had just finished stook threshing over 80,000 bushels in the Steveville and Cravath Corners districts, and had pulled the outfit back to the Howie district to do some stack threshing. We had set the machine in the centre of four big stacks, which were a work of art, each one an exact replica of the dome of St. Pauls. The four pitchers who had climbed to the top

caused quite a sensation, don't you know." Mrs. Turner was more interested in the number of bushels as this was their first crop in Canada, and when told the tally was 620 bushels from 12 acres she said, "The Lord is sure good to this country." It was only a few years later that the Calgary Stampede ran its now famous chuck wagon races. Great ideas have come out of that homestead country. Its settlers came from all parts of the world, only to leave it again when the dry years came, but they took with them experiences, of joys and sorrows which could only be gotten in a homestead country.



HANNAFORD'S FARM TRACTOR, 1916 VINTAGE

This is the tractor that started the famous wagon race. It was bought by Jim Hannaford for \$3,800. The photo is dim but that is Jim up on the tractor. Below him is Donald Yuill, whose team won the race, to the left is Martin Moe, then Tommy Middleton. The statue on the rack is Jack. Yuill.

of the stacks looked like statues in the bright early morning December sunshine.

Five teams and wagons were lined up around the long grain spout waiting for the golden grain, when for some unaccountable reason the engine stopped. I checked the spark plugs, and the magneto and could find nothing out of order, so started to crank, and to crank this "Big Four" was a man-sized job — but no go. The five teamsters gathered at the engine to give advice and compare this year's crop to those they had in Kansas, Iowa and North Dakota. The more I cranked, the madder I got, and I must have called the brute something it was not. "Mr. Turner," our Sunday school teacher scolded me, and I told him to go fly a kite or something. I then gave the crank an extra quick pull. Then Bang! Bang! Bang! It started with a roar, so did the five teams and wagons with no drivers, who were still standing at the back of the engine, all watching the best start of a race I had ever seen. Three outfits were neck and neck for the first 500 yards and kept on to the end of the half-mile strip of sod. The other two teams did not go far and were soon rounded up and brought back. We all got to work and by noon all four stacks were cleaned up, and ten wagons were loaded and on the way to the nearest elevator at Idlesleigh, 36 miles away.

As we were walking to the house for dinner two women came towards us and Mrs. Yuill said, "That was our team in the lead, wasn't it?" and we confirmed it. Then she turned to Mrs. Wilson and said, "You owe me a quarter." After doing justice to a good dinner, Mr. Howie, whom the district was named after, said, "By jove! if that race had have been run on "Epsom Downs" it would have

World wheat production

THE United States department of agriculture estimates world wheat production, exclusive of Soviet Russia at 7,315,000,000 bushels, compared with 6,930,000,000 produced last year.

By continents, the figures are given below, together with those for last year, in bushels.

	(000 omitted)	1955-56	1954-55
North America	1,450,000	1,450,000	1,300,000
Europe	1,740,000	1,740,000	1,720,000
Asia	1,780,000	1,780,000	1,790,000
Africa	185,000	185,000	220,000
South America	355,000	355,000	390,000
Oceania	205,000	205,000	171,000
		7,313,000	6,930,000

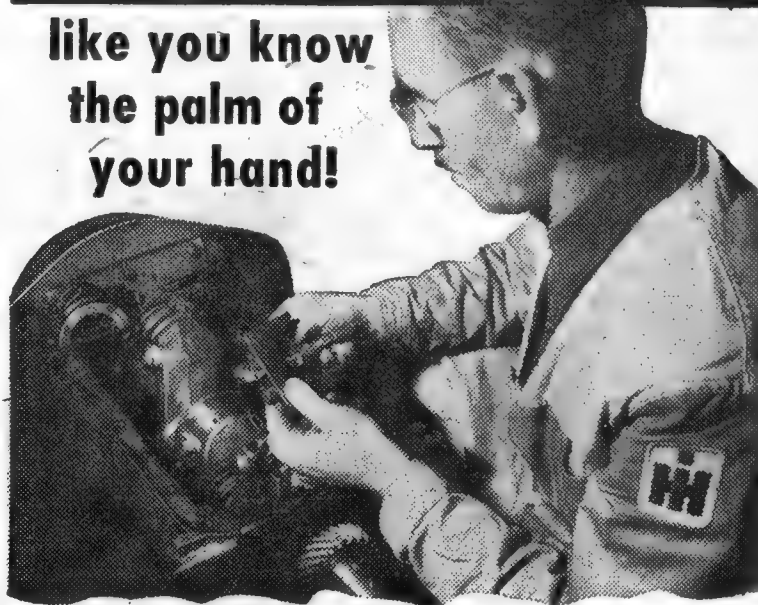
NEW OAT VARIETY

BEAVER and Victory are the only recommended oat varieties for the Peace River region at present, but the variety Abegweit is showing promise. The Beaverlodge station is not producing seed for distribution, but enquiries may be addressed there and an effort will be made to place requests with the growers of the variety.

From 1951 to 1954 on the basis of 13 tests on the degraded black to black soils of the Peace River region, Abegweit has averaged 94.2 bushels compared with Victory at 92.4. On the grey-wooded soils, based on 18 tests for the 4-year period, it has averaged 77.6 bushels compared with Victory at 80.8. Abegweit thus shows a slightly higher yield than Victory on the black soils and a slightly lower yield than Victory on the grey soils. The over-all picture for Abegweit in the Peace River region is one bushel per acre less than Victory.

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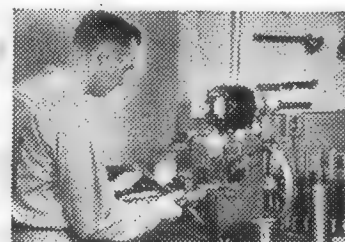
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sults: A sweet job—at a reasonable price—and a highly satisfied customer!

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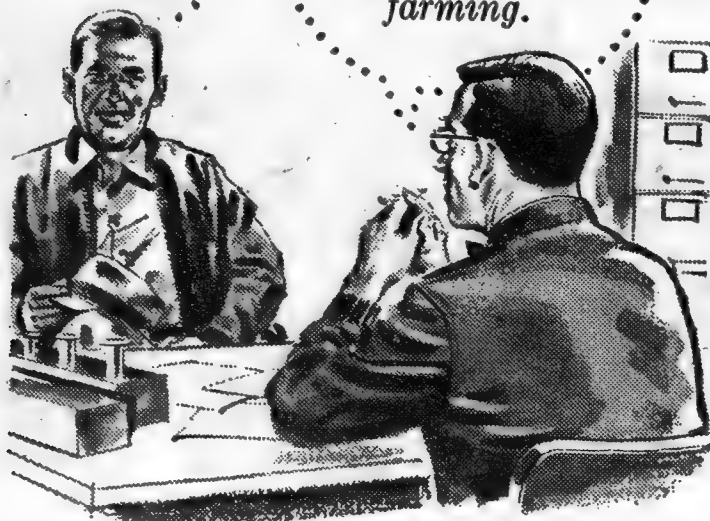


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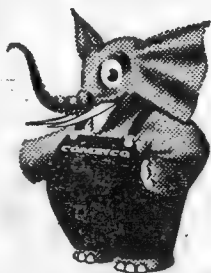
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The era of the oxen

By F. A. TWILLEY,
Swan Lake, Manitoba

If you think for one moment that these oxen are going to start moving as soon as you say "get up," you are sadly mistaken. Nothing will happen to anything or anybody. That cow-bird will continue to sit on the back of the off ox. The second word of command will cause a slight flutter. Someone has spoken or did the wind blow? The third, however, if accompanied by a touch of the stick with a nail at the end of it will put the patient beast in motion.

Patient, did you say? How about the little maid doing a bit of homework after school hours? She must be patient. Good practice for her, though. As a wife she will be used to a little stubbornness and be accustomed to asking three times before a little necessary job is done.

For a long trip on a short road and a long day's work with little to show for it, you could not beat the ox. Why not put off until to-morrow what you can do today?

oxen will leave the furrow and make for the cooling water whether you will it or no. You can either wait for them to come out and go plowing again or ride the plow in with them. One day I sat in 3 feet of water for about twenty minutes and on coming out, took off where we left off. A heavy shower of rain soaked me down to where the slough water left off, so I had to turn homeward.

One of my neighbors had a buggy but no horse. His wife refused to pull it so he had to hitch an ox to it when he wished to go to town. Now you can lead a horse to water but you cannot make it drink, and so with an ox. He would lead the ox to the trough before hitching up, but it would seldom take any. On the way to town, however, coming to the bridge across Minitonas Creek, it would take off down the bank to partake of the refreshing water and often stand in the middle.

The first winter I drove oxen, something like fifty years ago, I used them for hauling dry poles and green



Pioneer farm power.

They had their good points, however. (These fellows are all points. Not much chop for them those days!) Compared with the horse the ox may not be considered intelligent, but he had much more commonsense. He would not run away at a piece of flying paper or kick if the doubletree touched him. I have never heard of anyone being killed or hurt while driving oxen. They would not rear and plunge if the breaking plow met a stubborn root. They would stop and find out what you wished to do about it. If you decided to lift the plow out and jump the root, all right. If you wanted to take a good pull at it, O.K. They could take it when horses could not.

I remember one time when I was doing a bit of breaking for a neighbor settler who was anxious to get a bit of land in use near the house for a garden. Nearing the house during one round, my oxen stopped in their tracks and would not budge. No matter how I yelled and whooped they stood still. There was nothing in the way of roots or stumps to stop them so I lambasted them with a stick. Nothing doing. Upon investigation I was amazed and scared to see a little kid of three years old, fast asleep in the furrow in front of the oxen. I dread to think what might have happened had I been driving horses. Not that the parents would have missed the youngster for a while. They had so many kids they would not have noticed, but I would have hated to have been the cause of perhaps a fatal injury.

The best way to cool off on a hot day is to go and stand or sit, as the case may be, in a slough of water. I have done it many a time. Not willingly but under compulsion. The

cordwood to town. It was slow business going to town with a load but much slower coming back. I could walk much faster than they and no amount of urging would cause them to increase their speed. Other men with horses would call out to me in passing. One day, throwing the hind bob over the front one and tying up the lines, I left them to come home by themselves and took a ride with a fellow having horses. It worked fine. I was able to warm up the shack, cook my supper, set out some hay for them and do a bit of reading. They always came home, always is, until one night they didn't. Still missing next morning, I went in search of them. They were placidly chewing the cud about half a mile off the road, at a straw-stack.

Well, oxen had their day and are gone now and with them have gone the good manners and the courtesy of the road. Never have I known an ox driver to dash past a pedestrian on a wet day and splash him all over with mud. Never would he pass a man or woman on foot, if he could catch up to him or her, and not offer a ride. Who now-a-days, tearing along in a high-powered car is able to see what is going on in the world and be able to tell a field of wheat from one of oats or barley?

With oxen you could look with pleasure at a rich field of wheat as it came into the shot blade, on your way to town, and see it unfold and begin to head out as you came home.

And when their span of life neared its close though it seems unkind to mention it, they could be sold for as much as you paid for them, gracing the tables of rich and poor alike — juicy steaks, sweet and tender as a woman's heart.

Sleepers of the wild

By KERRY WOOD

NOW the sleepers of the wild are snoring again. Frogs have buried themselves in slimy ooze near marshes and streams and will lie in a frozen torpor until spring. Chipmunks are curled on couches at the end of yard-long tunnels, sleeping for six to nine days at a stretch until hunger makes them stir and seek the food caches where they dine briefly before going back to sleep again. Snakes have gathered in hillside caves, intertwined in reptilian balls that may number as many as five hundred snakes in a single cluster as they sleep away the winter. Bears are snoozing in salubrious contentment, hidden in hollow trees and leaf-covered burrows and letting their body-fats keep them warm until April's sun shines once more.

Most fish are active all winter and bite voraciously when anglers put baited hooks down through holes in the ice; other varieties, such as chub and the true minnows, freeze solid in the ice of shallow ponds and remain in that rigid state until the spring thaw brings them back to life. Toads and salamanders bury themselves in garden soils and cellars, where they remain in motionless sleep until the times comes to dig their way out and hurry overland to the nearest water for the mating rendezvous. Queen wasps and bumble bees, born in August, spend the snowy season in solitary confinement; they hide in tree cracks until the sun awakens the first flowers to coax such insects abroad, when they build new nests and mother new colonies.

The animals we call "gophers", which are really ground squirrels, sleep for at least four months every year — though they waken at intervals to dine on cached foods. The true gopher, that underground digger responsible for so many black mounds dotted across western hayfields, remains active all winter and patrols the hundreds of yards of tunnels of its domain, then visits the earthen bin where it has stored tasty root, tiger lily bulbs, and other delicacies.

Musk rats do not hibernate when ice seals over lakes and sloughs; we can sometimes watch them through clear ice and see them search the pond floor for edible roots and water-preserved vegetation. Their close cousins, the meadow-mice or voles, scamper about their pesty chores both by winter and summer, and they cause great havoc to grain crops left out in either swath or stook over the winter season.

Life Goes On

But a larger rodent, the woodchuck or ground hog, goes to its hibernation bed during the first week of September and stays there until the end of April — a total of eight months of sleep! Some insects sleep longer, but the woodchuck is certainly the champion snorer among the western animals. Scientists have performed tests on woodchucks and reveal that the heart of an animal killed during the active summer season stops beating in a few seconds time, while the heart of a hibernating woodchuck will keep right on beating for three hours after the animal has been killed by decapitation! Thus the process of hibernation slows down all functions of the body and brain.

Beavers pay daily visits to their dams during the winter. Some naturalists believe that the animals make

the dam area their toilet region, to avoid polluting waters back of the stick-barrier. Beavers also visit food cache piles every day to get bark-covered sticks of poplar and willow, then they carry the food-sticks to bank dens or into the main beaver houses where they shuttle off the bark-food at their leisure.

Porcupine Procedure

Porcupines are sleepy all the time, but do not hibernate when winter comes. Sometimes a porky will climb into the thick shelter of a spruce tree and remain up the tree for two or three days at a stretch. While there, the porcupine methodically chews away at the pulpy inner bark of the tree. But if a blizzard sweeps down from the north, then the porky climbs down the food-tree and waddles through the snow to reach its den under the roots of a big tree, and it will stay hidden inside the den until the storm blows over.

Skunks remain underground for weeks during the coldest weather, but whenever a mild spell breaks the monotony of winter they go foraging for mice, frozen insects, and anything else they can find. Grasshoppers are the main food of skunks; the rest of the year they will dine on anything that is edible, including vegetation and carrion.

Hungry hunters are abroad all winter, animals such as weasels, mink, marten, and the tiny, two-inch shrews. We see their trails etched in snows, revealing that they roam widely over fields and woodlands in search of victims. We also see the tracks of white-footed mice, red-backs and other voles, and the lopsided marks of rabbits — all eagerly sought by the wild hunters during the lean time called winter.

Birdlife In Winter

The birds are active, too. Chickadees and nuthatches search the twigs for eggs of plant-lice; crossbills shuck open spruce cones to get at the nutty seeds therein; Bohemian waxwings hunt for berries still clinging to shrubs and trees; redpolls and snow buntings flock on the farmfields and devour 40 to 700 weedseeds per bird per day to keep themselves healthy and happy. Ruffed Grouse scratch away the snow to get at plump red partridge-berries; they also feast on wolf-berries, snow-berries, rose-hips, tree-buds, and seeds of sedges and weeds. Woodpeckers drill into rotten stumps in quest of white grubs and wood-ants. Northern Shrikes prey on English Sparrows flocked near farm, barns and town buildings, while other bird-hunters such as snowy owls, horned owls, and goshawks seek rabbits, mice, and bird-game all winter long. None of the birds that spend the winter in snowy regions indulge in hibernation sleeps, though ornithologists are beginning to wonder if mosquito-feeding Nighthawks spend part of the winter snoozing in hillside crannies down in the arid American Desert country.

Winter is a hungry time for most wild creatures that do not sleep. Provident ones, such as beavers and red squirrels, have cached food in plenty to make life easy for them, but the hunting animals are always hungry and so are the birds. Perhaps they envy the somnolent woodchuck, content to laze away two-thirds of its entire life in dreamy slumber!

Housing for pullets

SIMPLE management practices, including sanitation and disease control measures, and the provision of adequate floor, nesting, roosting and feeding space, quite often spell the difference between profit and loss in our competitive poultry industry. The period between the disposal of the old flock and the transfer of pullets from range is the opportune time for a thorough clean-up and an examination of poultry house facilities.

At the Experimental Farm, Brandon, after cleaning out all droppings and litter, the practice is to thoroughly scrub the walls, ceiling and floor with a hot lye solution made up of one tablespoon of lye to 20 gallons of water. This is followed by the application of a reliable disinfectant, mixed according to manufacturers' directions. Chlorinated lime being both a disinfectant and deodorant, is

then used in the proportion of six ounces to each gallon of water.

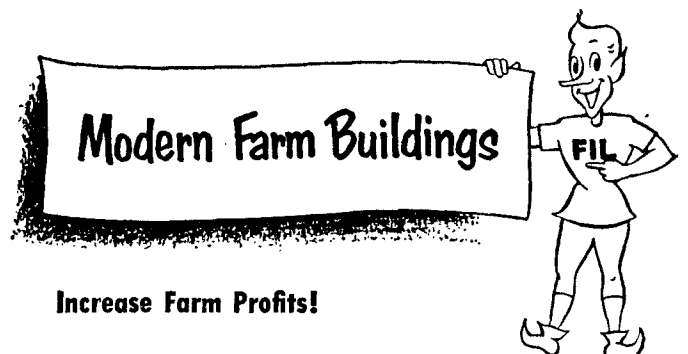
Poultrymen are sometimes guilty of keeping too many birds for the facilities available. Overcrowded houses are difficult to keep dry and are often a direct cause of vices such as cannibalism and egg eating. The recommended number of square feet of floor space per bird are three and four feet for light and heavy birds respectively.

Birds which have to compete for feed seldom consume enough for maximum production and dirty broken eggs have low sale value. The equipment provided must be sufficient for the number of birds housed.

Feeders: For every fifty hens one dry mash hopper six feet long and one ten-foot "V"-shaped grain trough is required.

Nests: One community nest twenty by sixty inches will serve fifty hens.

Roosting Space: Provide six liner inches for other breeds.



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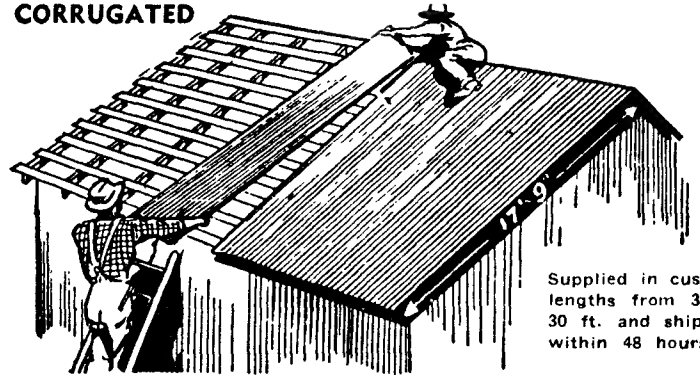
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The idea that experience in co-operative business is an education and inspires self-confidence and assurance to those participating therein.

ONLY IDEAS!

The idea that while competitors may follow the example of a co-service, they cannot offer the patrons the one thing co-operatives do — the ownership of the business.

Ownership means economic power. It can best be provided through co-operative effort.

In prosperity and in adversity the Alberta Wheat Pool is the strongest standby for the grain producers. It is their own property and under their own direction and guidance.

The foundation of this great co-operative effort was laid by hard-bitten pioneers. It is the responsibility of the present generation of grain producers to build a strong superstructure.

The Need for Constructive Advance

Man lives in the dawn forever. Our past has no other mission than to equip us for the present and the future. It and its precedents should not be allowed to divert, at this moment, one particle of our energy that could be devoted to constructive advance.



"IT'S ALBERTA POOL ELEVATORS FOR ALBERTA FARMERS"

NOTE and COMMENT Co-op Column

The annual meeting of the Alberta Wheat Pool will be held in Calgary starting on Tuesday, November 22.

In 1932 the wheat carryover was 136,000,000 and the west produced a crop of 423,000,000 bushels. Under the open market the farmers got a net of around 35c a bushel and lost heavily for every bushel produced.

As at September 15 the Alberta Wheat Pool owned and operated 529 country elevators with a total capacity of 37,621,750 bushels. In recent years the system has been substantially enlarged to accommodate increasing grain production.

Western wheat producers have got less financial help from the government of the nation than have the wheat producers of almost every other important wheat producing nation in the world. The Canadian wheat farmer has for the most part carried his own marketing costs over the long years.

Congestion trouble in Canada started with the big 1952 crop — nearly 700,000,000 bushels for all of Canada, 664,000,000 for the prairie provinces. In 1953 the prairie regions produced 584,000,000 bushels, in 1954 only 272,000,000 bushels and now 476,000,000 - 498,300,00 bushels for all of Canada. What kind of a marketing organization other than the Wheat Board could begin to handle the marketings from such volumes and still maintain a decent price?

Any suggestion that the open market system of selling grain would solve the congestion problem is too ridiculous to be even considered. There are no "open markets" operating freely anywhere in the world and governments are deeply involved in grain marketing and price supporting in all major wheat producing and importing nations. Argentina is guaranteeing its wheat growers \$2.60 or thereabouts per bushel and has been selling wheat as low as \$1.60 a bushel.

In this modern age the law of supply and demand is not permitted to operate with any degree of freedom in any segment of the national economy. To apply it to agriculture alone would be manifestly unfair. We are now living in what may be termed a welfare state in which the government extends help and protection to almost every form of business. Such being the case, who is there to say that the farmer alone should be the sole victim of unrestricted "supply and demand", whose operations require that those least able to compete must be eliminated by bankruptcy?

The Alberta Wheat Pool has announced the winners for 1955 of the two \$500 scholarships at the University of Alberta which it awards annually. They are: Miss Mary Duane-Gottschlich of the Lacombe district for Southern Alberta and Larry Joseph Bilan of Tofield for the north. The scholarships are awarded to farm young people who have shown exceptional scholastic ability and have demonstrated a keen interest in community activities. In awarding the scholarships preference is given where financial assistance would be of most benefit. One purpose is to provide an opportunity for the development of leadership among young farm people

Harold E. Chapman has been named first director of the newly established Saskatchewan Co-operative Institute, which will have its headquarters in Saskatoon. Mr. Chapman is a talented young man who was public relations director for the provincial royal commission on agriculture and rural life.

There are many unanswered questions about member satisfaction with farm co-ops. However our research did show a high relation between member satisfaction and member participation. Those members who were most satisfied with their association were the ones who understood the basic principles of co-op organization and operation — and thought of their association as their agent, an extension of their business, not just another place to do business, felt a responsibility for the co-op, attended more annual and special meetings — talked to their neighbors about the co-op, identified themselves with the association and belonged to co-ops that were using several educational methods to keep the members and management informed about the co-op organization and operation." — From the Co-operative Consumer.

Ideas for farm Co-ops

"CREATIVE LEADERSHIP" is the one thing that makes the difference between a poor, average and excellent co-operative. This opinion was given by Earl Butz, Assistant Secretary of Agriculture, Washington, D.C., on leave from Purdue University, to more than 2,000 delegates attending the 27th annual meeting of the American Institute of Co-operation at Purdue University, Lafayette, Indiana.

"Co-operatives falling in the excellent group are sparked by that intangible something that seems always to keep them on their toes. Call it what you will there is a thread of proud enthusiasm that weaves together members, directors, and management into a fabric of creative thinking. These are the co-operatives to which we all point with pride or with envy, depending upon in which group our own co-operative falls," Butz stated.

"A farmer co-operative is not a kingdom of heaven nor a 'philosophy' nor a 'way of life' but a co-operative corporation designed to increase the net income of the farmer," said Marvin Briggs, general manager, Indiana Farm Bureau Co-operative Association, as he discussed the subject of "Modern Co-operatives" with the A.I.C. delegates this week.

Speaking to the delegates on the subject of "Modern Agriculture", Professor Herrell DeGraff, Cornell University, Ithaca, N.Y., said: "To me the miracle of America is not 60 million motor vehicles and the fantastic total of other comforts and conveniences, it is what has happened in agriculture that has contributed so much to making these things possible."

DeGraff continued by saying that "In the future, our farm products will be raised with less labor on fewer farms using larger amounts of capital, and with an even greater premium than there is today on managerial skill."

In conclusion DeGraff contended that "Farmers of the years ahead will need you, a co-op operator, even more than today. This, I think, is your challenge for the future."

Perilous mountain journey

By E. R. WOODMAN,
Salmon Arm, B.C.

IT often seems strange what a man will do. I was working on a ranch in the Cariboo. It was that time of the year that it is very undecided what the weather might be. Well it so happened that I was finished work on the ranch so I thought I would like to go to Salmon Arm, which is my home town. I would see my sisters and have a good visit with them; till I found more work to do. Just as I was ready to start out it started to snow so I decided to wait a day or two. In that day or two it snowed about two feet so I made up my mind to go anyway. You see I had to walk about forty miles to catch a train or bus. I planned to start out early the next morning to a small town called Williams Lake where I would catch the train or bus. I was busy preparing things that I would need for the trip, when a knock came at the door. There stood a person covered with snow looking neither like man or woman. It turned out to be the school teacher. She had heard that I was going out to Salmon Arm which was also her home town. She had bought a pony which she asked me to deliver there and wanted to pay me well for doing so. After thinking it over I decided to take on the job and make a few dollars instead of spending it on train or bus fare. I asked her where I could get the horse. She said that she would have the neighbor's boy bring it down early in the morning. I had to change all my packing and get ready for a camping trip. Thus I started out. The first day of the trip we did pretty well, we made around twenty-five miles. Then I made camp. We passed the night among the fir trees in about 15 below zero weather.

Arctic Weather

The next day we did not do so well, we were climbing and the snow was deeper. I cut my mileage down to twenty miles a day to save the horse because feed was scarce. We did pretty well till we got to the highest point on the Cariboo trail which is the hundred mile house. We arrived at dark, a long way from any building or people, the temperature had dropped, being forty-two below. The snow was deep, the horse was tired and so was I, so decided to make a fire and pitch camp for the night. That was when my trouble started. I went to the horse to get a camp axe which I carried to build fires, I untied the rope which held the axe to the pack, my hands were cold and the axe slipped from my hands and it fell down beside the horse. The horse kicked at the axe and hit the blade side of it, which cut very deep into his foot.

Hard Travelling

I thought then the only thing to do was to build a fire to get light so I could see to fix the horse's foot. I went to a dry pine tree and chopped off a few small pieces of wood and tried to light them. I don't exactly know why the wood wouldn't burn, it must have been the high altitude or frost, anyway it wouldn't light. Just as I was giving up I happened to hear a cow bell tinkling in the distance, so I tied the axe back on the horse because I thought where there was a cow there must be people. I travelled another two hours or more till I came to the 83 mile house. I went to the door and rapped, a man answered the door and I asked him if I could stay overnight. He said, "No! You fellows ought to know better than to be out here with cars at

this time of the year." When I told him I didn't have a car and that I was travelling with a horse and had trouble he said, "Oh, that's different." With that statement he proceeded to light a lantern and we both doctored the horse as best we could, but the horse couldn't travel so I had to stay with the man for ten days in which time I fed stock and cut fire wood for my board. After that I started out again and the going was not too bad till I got to Clinton. After passing Clinton instead of snowing it had turned to heavy rain and then froze to a mass of ice. The horse had no shoes on so we had to pick our way over grassy spots till we got to within twelve miles of Kamloops. I had had nothing to eat all day, neither had the horse.

We came to a rancher's place and I asked the owner if we could put up for the night. He said "Put the horse in the stable and you can sleep in the bunk house with the hired man." He never asked me whether I had eaten and I didn't bother him but went to bed. In the bunk house was a heater made out of a gasoline drum, it smoked more inside of the cabin than on the outside. But it was warm and a place to sleep. The next morning I got up and thought that the rancher had been so good to me I would help with the chores. The hired man took the milk to the house while I was feeding the cows and that was the last I saw of either the owner or hired man. They had no interest in my welfare or food for myself.

There was nothing else to do but start out again. When I got to Kamloops there was no place to feed the horse so I just kept on travelling. It is a distance of seventy-two miles from Kamloops to Salmon Arm, but, having worked for a rancher out of Kamloops at one time, I remembered a short-cut over the mountains which had been used by the famous bandit Bill Miner who robbed the C.P.R. railway train of its payroll back in the early years of the century. This trail shortening my trip about forty miles.

Nearly Starved

I camped that night in what is known as the Skamikin valley. I had no food for myself but I stole some hay for the horse. The rest of the trip went pretty well. I arrived at my destination with the horse nearly played out and myself nearly starved. I had been four days without food. I took the pack from the horse and threw it on the ground. I fed him then and delivered him to its proper place. They paid me as promised so I left my pack with them and told them I would be back for it the next day. I then went to my sisters' place. They asked me if I had anything to eat and when I told them I hadn't eaten for four days they prepared a meal fit for a king. I ate one baking powder biscuit and drank two cups of tea and that was my meal. I just couldn't touch the rest of it. I have often thought of this trip and know that I would not care to travel that way again. But it has its moral too, as it shows what a man will do to save a horse and keep a promise.

Average yield of sunflower seed in Manitoba this year is estimated at 700 lbs. per acre, an increase of 100 lbs. over the long term average. Beacon, the new rust resistant variety, occupies more than 60 per cent of the acreage. It is grown mainly in the Red River valley, because of its late maturity.

Concrete root house

THE Swift Current, Sask. Experimental Farm has worked out a plan for the construction of an economical root house.

The form is semi-circular and resembles a small sized Quonset type of structure. It is exceedingly simple to build with ordinary tools and uses less than half the lumber required for "box" forms. Furthermore, the problem of removing forms is greatly simplified and the lumber wasted is negligible when compared with common methods.

Five-sixteenths, sheathing-grade fir plywood is lightly nailed on a framework of 2 x 4's and 2 x 6's. Except for the vertical supports all lumber is used in full lengths and none of the 4' x 8' sheets of plywood needs to be cut.

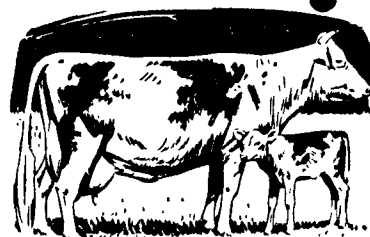
A layer of waterproof paper is tacked or stapled to the plywood, then 2" x 2" mesh 14 gauge self-furring stucco wire is laid over this. Two coats of stucco are then applied. Following this 6" x 6" mesh reinforcing wire and iron rods are fastened in place and four inches of concrete is shovelled on.

Studies of the root houses built show no signs of failure. All units are overlaid with soil four or more feet deep.

Inquiries regarding this type of construction may be addressed to the Superintendent, Experimental Farm, Swift Current, Sask.

There is a potential of at least 650,000 acres of arable land in the east central area of British Columbia, according to B.C. Appleby, of the Prince George experimental farm. Most of this land is of the grey wooded type and heavily forested. The organic content of these soils is low and requires the sowing of grasses and legumes in cropping sequence.

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CASE "300"

expanding the markets for dairy producers



Four full years of advertising and sales promotion are behind for the Dairy Farmers of Canada and the fifth is nearing its close. Let's look at the Dominion Bureau of Statistics dairy industry figures for 1951 in comparison with 1954 to see what has been accomplished.

ANNUAL PER CAPITA CONSUMPTION OF DAIRY FOODS 1951 vs. 1954

FLUID MILK AND CREAM	1951—314.4 PTS.	1954—314.1 PTS.
CREAMERY BUTTER	1951—19.17 LBS.	1954—19.28 LBS.
CHEESE	1951—5.70 LBS.	1954—6.26 LBS.
SKIM MILK POWDER	1951—3.72 LBS.	1954—4.72 LBS.
EVAPORATED MILK	1951—17.86 LBS.	1954—18.17 LBS.
ICE CREAM	1951—14.48 PTS.	1954—15.04 PTS.

In 1951 a total of 2,853,000 milk cows produced 15,309,971,000 lbs. of milk of which 13,016,218,000 lbs. were sold off the farm. In 1954, 12.7% more cows produced 16,853,621,000 lbs. of milk of which 14,739,063,000 lbs. were sold off the farm, 13.2% more than 1951. During this period Canada's population increased by 8.27%.

During this period competition of other foods and beverages for share of the consumer's food dollar, in terms of money spent on advertising and other sales promotion, was acknowledged to be the fiercest in Canada's history.

Here's how per capita consumption of dairy foods compared at the end of 1954 with 1951.

Fluid milk and cream practically unchanged at 405.2 lbs. or .88 pts. per day.

Creamery butter, up .11 lb. at 19.28 lbs.

Cheese, up .56 lb. or 9.8% at 6.26 lbs.

Ice Cream, up .56 pt. or 3.8% at 15.04 pts.

Skim milk powder, up 1.0 lb. or 26.8% at 4.72 lbs.

Evaporated milk, up .31 lb. or 4.3% at 18.17 lbs.

Canada is among the high five nations of the world in per capita consumption of dairy foods equalling 1027.4 lbs. of milk per year. To preserve and increase this market for dairy producers against the heavy promotional spending on all competitive foods and beverages is the objective of Dairy Farmers of Canada advertising and sales promotion.

DAIRY FARMERS OF CANADA



409 HURON STREET, TORONTO, CANADA

The mysterious immigrant

By JOHN F. MOORE

OLD HURYK is dead. Old Huryk lived a long and tortuous life. More than a half a century of bickering, animosity and secrecy had bound his days, since the cold, raw, sleety morning he first set foot in Canada—illegally.

Illegal entrance — his forged passport now showed, but why? Over fifty years and it was still a mystery. His answers had not been vague, that raw wintry morning in Halifax. They were direct, concise, yet guarded.

True, the police had been suspicious. But there was no evidence to hold him on, nothing they could lay a finger on. In those days immigration was easier, and immigrants were wanted. They could only watch.

They saw him next at Fort William, where he had worked his way on the railroad, but here he vanished despite attention. Over a year later he turned up in Calgary. He had been working his way across the prairies on farms and ranches, gaining experience that was apparently new to him in the beginning.

At the turn of the century he set out on foot from Calgary with a pack on his back. He appeared near the little hamlet of Mundare in central Alberta, and finally took up a homestead. He said his name was Huryk, but no one really knew. He told the few settlers he was Polish, but he was much more fluent as an Austrian.

Within the next year he began a large log house which he never finished. He made no friends and even few acquaintances. Yet he had considerable money, far more it seemed than a man could make working his way across Canada in 1900. He bought a partly improved quarter section adjoining his homestead. He worked hard building and fencing, and during the next ten years, in spite of adversities began to prosper.

He never visited or confided in any one. He kept his gates and all doors of out buildings locked. At one time the bailiff had to shear the lock off a granary door to get some wheat under seizure for debts.

Visitors Arrive

One day a telegram from Fort William came to the Post Office for him. A few days later he drove up to the station just as the train pulled in. It was a warm spring day, but it had little effect on Huryk. Among the few passengers to get off was a big, blonde buxom woman leading a young boy about eleven.

There was no warm welcome from the tall, cold taciturn man. Casually he surveyed them for a moment, then said, "Come, my democrat is over here."

Silently they jogged out of town. Folks tried to get to know her a little. She seemed approachable. Yet Huryk with his military-like precision, always found a way to freeze any show of hospitality.

On in the summer he appeared at the station again just as the passenger train pulled in. With no ceremony he saw the woman and the lad aboard, then turned and drove out of town.

There was much speculation and wonderment this time, but no enlightenment whatsoever came from aloof Huryk. The neighbors did learn that the woman put the boy into a boarding school in Edmonton. Then she quietly dropped out of sight. But Huryk paid the fees.

The Young Teacher

The years rolled on. The lad was clever and did well. Eventually he

had his teacher's certificate. No one knew whether Huryk had ever seen the boy during those years. But one spring the young man got a school three miles north of the Huryk farm. It had a teacherage on the grounds, and there he lived.

The teacher often passed old Huryk on the road or in the fields. The boy soon knew him well by sight and would always give him a wave. Old Huryk slightly bent now, always ignored him and never waved back.

Sometimes the young teacher would call out, "Hello there, Mr. Huryk!" and try to engage him in conversation. He never succeeded, but one day he glanced back after a vain attempt and saw old Huryk standing looking at him, then suddenly mount his seat and whip up his horses, zig-zagging the binder through the ripened grain. It puzzled him.

He developed a strange feeling for the hard, lonely old man. So often he would be resting his horses at the end of his field near the school road. Then he would move off just as the young teacher approached.

During the following year old Huryk was ailing at times. He would give no information, and no doctor could come near him.

A Bitter Life Ends

Suddenly he hadn't been seen for a couple of days, and a neighbor ventured over. An autopsy later revealed he had died of a ruptured appendix.

November had come, the harvest was over, the fields blackened with frost, the stubble whitened and trod underfoot by cattle and horses finding the last chaff and heads before snowfall. Attended by only a few neighbors and the teacher, the funeral was held in the big church in the little town near by. For a coffin, the neighbors had carefully made a box. Led by Huryk's own team and democrat (he had left a written request for this), it was a small procession that drove to the cemetery.

The cold, blustery afternoon, now driving squalls of hard stinging snow over the barren prairie, was perhaps a fitting conclusion to Huryk's bitter life. The stark stripped poplars tossed their last dried dead leaves in a swirling spray, and in a few minutes a bed of leaves had eddied and formed in the grave. It struck the few standing about as the only bit of softness he had ever known, as they lowered the box to rest on the leaves.

In departing he had left little evidence of his hidden life. Very little, except a forged passport, and a written will executed a few weeks before his death.

"I — Huryk leave and bequeath my farm and all my properties to my son, Stevan, now school teacher at —."

A Prairie Farmers' Rehabilitation Act project designed to provide Regina and Moose Jaw with a plentiful supply of water is well under way at a cost of around \$2,000,000. When completed in two years it will provide a measure of control over flood waters along the 300-mile course of the Qu'Appelle valley. Work is moving rapidly on a 12½-mile canal which will carry water from the South Saskatchewan River, west of Elbow, across a height of land to the Qu'Appelle Valley. It will supply water to Buffalo Pound Lake, which in turn provides the source of water for Regina and Moose Jaw. The project will also provide water for a P.F.R.A. irrigation scheme which is contemplated but not yet approved.

It's still "The Matador"

By GRANT MACÉWAN

FOR well over half a century, cattlemen in the Western Hemisphere recognized no name more familiar than "Matador", a Spanish word adopted by a Scottish company for its gigantic ranching operations in United States, Canada and South America.

It is now 34 years since the Matador company withdrew from its ranch holdings in Saskatchewan but the grazing land close to the South Saskatchewan River, north of Swift Current, is still known as "The Matador" and stories are still being told about how they "did it" when "Legs" Lair was manager and when Matador cowboys went into Swift Current, now and then, looking for some not-too-quiet means of celebration. There were some fabulous cow-hands among them, whose fame went far. Occasionally a Swift Current paper would carry a news item telling that, "Mulligan of the Matador paid us his usual visit, fine and costs yesterday, and went away satisfied that he received value for his money."

The Matador Land and Cattle Company was formed in 1882, with headquarters at Dundee, Scotland. Its capital was 400,000 pounds sterling and purpose was to ranch in Texas. The Matador name actually came with the first ranch land acquired in that state. The original holdings consisted of some 300,000 acres about where the Texas town of Matador is located. It was Comanche Indian country; it had good grass and for a long time it supported those long-horned cattle of Spanish origin. The new Matador company took over what cattle were already on the ranch and bought more. At the end of the first year, the company had 40,000 cattle on its books.

When Scottish-born Murdo Mackenzie became Matador manager in 1891, the cattle count stood at 65,000 head and company policy was to expand in other areas. Trail herds were sent north to Montana and the Dakotas and the northern grass proved to be good. Mackenzie was one who never did accept the view that good grass ended at the International Boundary and in 1902, an officer of the company was writing to the Canadian Government, enquiring about obtaining a lease of 100,000 acres for a long term of years, with a guarantee against settlers being permitted to squat on it, and at a lease rental of two cents an acre per year. The Canadian offer was satisfactory and almost at once, a survey of available Canadian lands was undertaken. In August of 1903, Murdo Mackenzie, one of the greatest cattlemen in the history of the North American range, was making formal application to the Canadian Government for six townships of grass land on the north side of the South Saskatchewan, north of Swift Current. The 21-year lease granted, dated from November 1, 1904. Although not in the Chinook Belt, the ranch was in good grass country and some of the land was heavy Sceptre clay which has become recognized for its abundant fertility. In the following June (1905), the cattle, horses, wagons, tents and cowboys began to arrive. Cattle and equipment were shipped to Waldeck on the main line of the C.P.R., with the necessity of moving them without benefit of any more railroads over the remaining distance.

The chief obstacle in moving cattle in and out at that period was the South Saskatchewan, over which there was no bridge. Incoming herds and outgoing herds were obliged to swim. It wasn't an easy matter to force several thousand cattle across

the broad Saskatchewan and a crossing operation might take days at a time. The place where the herds were usually made to cross was about seven miles down stream from Saskatchewan Landing, where a bridge was built in recent years; it was about a mile east of the ranch headquarters.

A Feeding Operation

There were some distinctive features about Matador cattle ranching as it was conducted in Canada. Somebody observed that the Saskatchewan Matador was the only big ranch in the world that didn't have a herd bull. No breeding operations were conducted. Young cattle, mostly steers, were shipped to Saskatchewan "in bond", to remain until grown and fattened and then sent back across "the line" to be sold on the Chicago market. Each spring about 2,000 yearling and two-year-old steers adopted the Saskatchewan range and remained until they were fat four-year-olds and ready for market. Thus, there were two big cattle drives and river-crossings each year, with a couple of thousand young cattle coming in at the spring season and a corresponding number of heavy cattle going out in the fall. Occasionally, some additional feeder cattle were bought at Calgary Stock Yards and just about as often, Pat Burns was a buyer of the fattened animals that didn't have to be "cleared" back to the United States to avoid customs.

The Saskatchewan Matador was carrying about 6,000 cattle in the summer season and about 4,000 in the winter. Mr. Mackenzie's statement to the Canadian Government for December, 1906, showed 4,160 cattle and 60 horses and Manager John McBain's report at July, 1914, showed 6,486 cattle and 100 horses.

The cattle were "whitefaces" and all carried the famous brand, the "Flying U." Murdo Mackenzie was an advocate of good breeding and demonstrated what good bulls could do to change the poor type and quality of the old Texas cattle which first occupied the ranch. Even on the Chicago market, cattle from the Saskatchewan ranch were recognized for their excellence and commonly commanded a premium.

The Hard Winter

The 130,000-acre ranch was divided into north and south halves, the north being the summer range and the south, the winter pasture. That, of course, was no guarantee of winter grazing; usually, there was a fairly long period of winter when hay feeding was necessary and in some severe winters, Matador losses were high. The first winter in Saskatchewan was favorable and the cattle came through in fine shape but in the next one, the northern weather was at its meanest. It was the winter of 1906-07, one of the worst in the history of Canadian ranching and the big stacks of hay on the Matador were not big enough. Between wicked weather and feed shortage, some 40 per cent of the Matador were lost. Such a setback might have shaken the faith of some men but it didn't reduce Murdo Mackenzie's confidence in the Saskatchewan grass-land and in the spring of 1907, more cattle were unloaded at Waldeck and "pushed" across the river to bring the count back to the usual 6,000 head.

David Somerville was the first ranch manager and was in charge during the bad winter. Then there was "Legs" Lair, six-foot, six-inch Texan who, upon retiring from the company, remained in Saskatchewan

to operate a small ranch for himself. John McBain was a later manager. Murdo Mackenzie never actually lived in Canada but was a frequent visitor. And had he been successful in an attempt to buy some nearby properties, the Matador Land and Cattle Company might have remained for many more years on the Canadian side.

As it was, technical trouble arose and the Matador company found it impractical to continue in Canada. There were income tax problems made doubly difficult because of operations on two sides of the Border; there were new difficulties in bringing cattle to Canada "in bond" as had been the practice for many years. And finally, there was a change in Canadian lease policy making it necessary for holders to carry breeding stock to the extent of one-third of the herd. The Matador steers could not meet the requirements and in 1921, instead of renewing the lease, the company decided to withdraw.

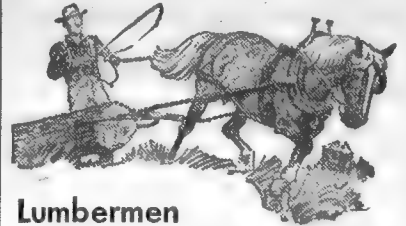
The concluding act on the Canadian side was not without lots of action. It consisted of swimming its 6,000 "whitefaces" across the South Saskatchewan at a time when the water was high. That crossing occupied nearly two weeks and fortunately, a good picture of the big herd coming out of the river was obtained by Photographer W. J. Oliver.

Texas Ranch Sold

The mighty Matador Company continued its cattle operations elsewhere until 1951 when the Texas ranch was sold, marking the end of 69 years of production under one ownership. Cattle on the ranch at the time of the sale numbered the same as at the end of the first year of ownership in 1882, namely, 40,000 head. It was one of the few ranching enterprises in either United States or Canada to bridge the years between the frontier and present-day ranching. At the time of sale, the company had close to a million acres of land and was branding around 14,000 calves a year.

But Saskatchewan's Matador Ranch continued to support cattle. It had demonstrated the value of its grass and when the company lease lapsed, the ranch was reserved for a Community Pasture to be administered by the Saskatchewan Department of Agriculture. In that capacity, it served a large and useful purpose, according up to 5,000 cattle, many horses and at times, some sheep; it was serving many owners. The grazing area was reduced at times when parts of the original area were released for farming purposes but to a host of agricultural people across the West, it is still "The Matador". One of the fine tributes paid to the Matador Ranch of Community Pasture years is that it served as a sort of model in the organization of community pastures under the Prairie Farm Rehabilitation Act.

Ontario beef producers are working on a plan of voluntary contributions of 10c per head of beef cattle market, the money to be used for advertising the value of beef as a food.



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The broncho in early Saskatchewan

By PHILLIP CRAMPTON

ON looking back over more than half a century of progress in the Prairie Provinces, I am bound to confess that much of this wonderful advance from a wilderness to one of the greatest wheat producing areas in the world, owes its start to that little long-haired, easy-going 'critter' we call the broncho. The name, which in the early days of the century was almost universal for any type of horse which came from the open range ranches to the South, is somewhat misleading. A true broncho, according to the encyclopaedia, is a small horse, or pony, most probably a descendant of the horses brought to America by the Spaniards in the seventeenth century, and later, adopted by the Indians of the Western Plains for their own use. The word 'broncho' means 'rough' or 'wild' in Spanish, and doubtless was tacked on to these poor beasts of burden because of their propensity to be just that, under the cruel treatment of their Spanish masters. The Indians, too, were not known for kindness and under their new Blackfoot owners, it is certain that these descendants of the Spanish imports, received no better treatment — no wonder, then, that they were rough and wild.

The mustang and the cayuse — other branches from this first Spanish stock — have remained closer in habit and purer in race to their progenitors; the former as wild horses on the plains of Texas and New Mexico, the latter as Indian ponies in the extreme western portions of the continent.

Mixed Blood

The broncho, as the early settlers to Saskatchewan knew him, was by no means pure. The blood of various other well established breeds ran in his veins; the far-seeing ranchers in the south of the province having 'improved' the original stock on their ranges, through the importation of pure-bred stallions from abroad. Percheron, Clydesdale and other breeds from the old-established breeds of Europe and America. Notwithstanding all this blue blood and foreign influence, the horse we early settlers bought from those ranchers of the open ranges to the south still went by the name of broncho.

In 1902 I homesteaded in Northern Saskatchewan about one hundred miles south-east from Prince Albert; at that time, the northernmost city in the province. A weekly passenger and freight train served this northern outpost from Regina, by way of the few scattered houses and stores where the city of Saskatoon was to rise later. There were no cars, no trucks, no tractors in those early days,

and long stretches of trail to be negotiated from railhead to the outlying areas under settlement. Heavy loads of settlers' effects had to be transferred from the box-cars which had hauled them from distant points to this terminus in the north, and here was where the broncho team came in, with the gaily painted wagon or sleigh, loaded to capacity. All through the late spring and summer of that, and many succeeding years, these 'argonauts' of the trail, would leave the busy town of Prince Albert and wind their way fifty, a hundred, or even a hundred and fifty miles along the twisting trails to south and east. There was good farm land along this valley and the land-hungry settlers from all the eastern provinces, and many from across the line, congregated here with one purpose — to find themselves homesteads.

Busy Times

The land office — a neat red brick building in those days did big business issuing "plats" of townships showing penciled marks where homesteads were for the taking. The local livery stables and implement stores did an equally lucrative business providing teams of bronchos, harness, sleighs and wagons. It was the commencement of one of the greatest movements of population into the Province which has ever taken place. Today there are cities and towns, with huge hotels, Universities, street cars and parks, where fifty short years ago there was little but prairie wool and gophers. In the northern park-like region where the poplar and willow bluffs forced the trails to twist and turn as they headed out into the unknown, and where the orange lily and lady's slipper shone through the knee-high grass and peavine, agricultural land now lies, brooding under the summer sun or covered deep by protecting snow, awaiting the busy rush of the growing season and the harvest of the golden crop. But all this wonderful transformation from a wilderness to a pleasant rural country, has been made possible — not through man's effort alone, but through the toil, and sweat, and willingness of the humble broncho.

The Indispensable Bronco

The first thing to be purchased by any homesteader, be he married with a family to keep, or a lonely bachelor, with a 'promised' wife awaiting, would be a team of bronchos. Bronchos became big business, almost overnight, and as town after town sprang up along the line of the old C.N.R. creeping slowly through the valley on its way from Winnipeg, sales stables would be opened up by

(Continued on page 27)

Our hummingbirds

By KATE WATSON

ACCORDING to the dictionary, the hummingbird family comprises the smallest of birds, many being less than three inches long. Their bills are slender and their tongues very extensible. Their voices as weak and usually unmusical. Their food, mostly obtained by hovering over flowers, consists of small insects, nectar, etc. In flying, the beat of their wings is so rapid, that only a blur is visible and a humming sound is produced. They are also, according to the records, pugnacious in disposition, and courageous in defending their nest against larger birds and animals. The nests are beautifully constructed, and two tiny white eggs are laid.

Such factual information is interesting, but it was the human interest element accentuating the facts which made our close up acquaintance with a family of hummingbirds, a never-to-be-forgotten experience in nature study.

It was our understanding that hummingbirds were timid little birds, with secretive habits in building their nests. I imagine that most of us go through life without ever having discovered their hiding place. So what was our pleasurable surprise to find that these fascinating little birds had built a nest near the end of a swinging twig, on a trellised rose bush at the south-east corner of the house, where they had no privacy, but were dry and comfortable under the overhanging eaves.

Visiting the Nest

As the garden tap was immediately below the rose bush, it was quite a problem not to do anything to frighten the mother bird by watering the garden or, by satisfying our curiosity, in the nesting proceedings. It gave us such pleasure that a dozen times a day we took a look to see if she was still sitting there and, fortunately, she seemed to take our interest philosophically. While the eggs were being hatched she rarely left the nest, and then suddenly we never saw her at all. Becoming alarmed lest we had frightened her away, we decided to get a step-ladder, and peak into the nest. There they were — two birdlings, no bigger than bumble bees. Having repeated this procedure a few days later, and having noted the further growth of the babies, we came to the conclusion that the mother bird sat on the nest very little after the eggs were hatched, if at all, and probably fed them in the early morning and evening. This was merely a surmise, because as the birds were growing we never saw the parent birds near them.

The two tiny birds became so fearless that we could even pull down the branch very gently and look at them. Then the time came when one could see them quite plainly side by side, their bills pointing in the same direction, and growing longer daily. The day came when they were obviously ready to fly. We were most desirous of having a pictorial record of them and not having a telescopic lens, we decided to take a chance on a close-up picture. But in our eagerness to get a perfect picture, we cut a protruding twig. Up to that point the birds seemed disposed to humor us, but that was asking too much of their credulity, and they both left the nest in their first faltering flight. We had become so attached to our little pets, that we were filled with contrition and anxiety, wondering how they would fare. Would their mother find them? Could they feed themselves if she didn't? Could they fly far enough to be out of harm's way?

In a short time we located one on

the branch of a low set pink dogwood tree, and the other on the trellised fence near by. They looked so tiny to be going out into the big world.

However, the greatest point of interest was yet to come. Having observed their first timid flight from the nest, we were now to witness one of the wonders of nature. In a matter of minutes the mother bird, which had seemed nowhere near, was hovering over each one of them, and it was absorbing to see her fly up beside them and disregarding our close proximity, feed and caress them as though she were saying, "Don't worry, everything is under control." We realized we should never have seen this, had it not been for the photography incident.

Babies Take Wing

That night it rained, and we wondered about our little friends, prematurely out in the cold. But, next morning the sun shone, and there they were in the peach tree, gaily flitting from branch to branch, trying out their wings and seeming proud of their achievement.

A week went by before we saw them again. I was gathering flowers in the garden, and one tiny bird came very close, almost in salutation and then flew gracefully away. The same thing happened the next day. It gently circled around where we were, wings in rapid motion, and almost seeming to say "watch me fly. Don't you think I am a smart little bird to have made such progress?" Then, sipping the nectar from the flowers near by, it soared away into the blue with the magic speed which is characteristic of the hummingbird. Perhaps it was their au revoir, because we have not seen them again.

Once the birds have flown away, I understand, they never come back to the nest, so we had an opportunity of examining it closely. Constructed of lichen and hairs, and fine fibre, it is very skilfully wrought and is little larger than a hen's egg with the top removed. It is quite shallow and is lined with softest down almost like absorbent cotton. It was suspended on one side between two twigs, the other side being free. It would have been interesting to have seen the birds building the nest. Did they go round and round to produce the circular effect, or by what marvellous instinct did they build this rock-a-bye baby cradle for their future birdlings?

With all the pleasure we received from our little transients, do you wonder that we called them "Our paying guests". And as their bills grew, they paid with interest.

Pets unlimited

By EVELYN J. PAISLEY

"I SAW such a nice wee puppy today," my husband remarked recently in a very casual manner. A little too casual I thought, as I remembered the hints which had been flying fast and loose lately from the male members of the household. Yes, by now I knew that they wanted a pet of some kind, preferably a Collie pup. At the present time we are short of space, which is why I try to ignore bribes, hints, etc., but I suppose I will eventually weaken as I must admit that I, too, am very fond of pets. They do fill a special place in one's life, as they are educational as well as amusing. There seems to be some inner desire in almost any child to possess a real live pet of its own, to love and care for. It teaches a child kindness and gentleness and a great feeling of pro-

tectiveness and responsibility which it can never quite comprehend to the same degree if learned from any other source.

We have had quite a variety of pets, and each one had its own particular kind of attraction. "Jo-Jo" and "Eli" a pair of goldfish, were the first, and its amazing how attached one can get to the pretty little things. We fed them carefully and enjoyed them for quite a long time. We watched helplessly as they gasped their last, after a new ingredient had been added to the water.

Next we had a little dog which we called "Polar". He was completely white and looked like a young Polar bear cub. We were never certain of his pedigree, but very sure of his intelligence. As a puppy, he had to be bathed frequently, for just like a young boy, he could find the dirtiest places to play. My husband would wash and brush him until his coat shone like white satin, but often we'd look out a few minutes later and see him rolling in the dust or playing under an old greasy car which was under repair in the backyard. However, just like all young things he grew up, and as he grew older he developed a real sense of responsibility. He would bark and let me know whenever my young son was into some mischief. His eyes had a look of understanding, sometimes he looked sad and sometimes he almost seemed to smile when well pleased. When we moved to British Columbia we had to give poor Polar to an admiring neighbor.

A reddish brown squirrel with a long, bushy tail was next on the list. We built our home among the fir trees, but soon discovered that we were intruders. This chatty little fellow would zip up a tree almost faster than the eye could follow, then come cautiously part way down to scold us whenever we ventured out. They are very careful creatures, but like a lot

of us humans, have a very inquisitive nature. We kept leaving nuts and various bits of food for him and soon he lost his un-neighborly attitude, and proved to be very friendly. He ceased to scold unless a stranger was near; and then he would scold until we came to the door to see what the trouble was.

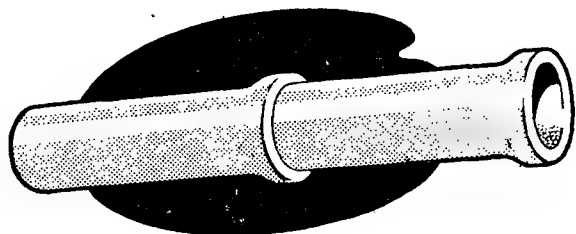
About this time a young relative of the squirrel appeared. This was a little striped chipmunk. The western variety are smaller and have more and narrower stripes than the eastern type. This chappie had his home by a small pile of stones which we were using to build our rock garden. At first the squirrel and chipmunk couldn't agree too well, but they soon learned to respect each other's rights and then seemed to get along fine. We never found out which of the two begrudged us our late sleep on Sunday morning. Just when we were luxuriously sleeping in we would be rudely awakened by a shower of cones on the roof and a noisy chattering outside our bedroom window. I don't know whether it was because they worried when we didn't get up at the usual early hour, whether they were afraid we would miss church, or whether they just felt that we didn't deserve that extra rest, but they did see to it that we didn't get it.

When we moved back to Alberta we missed our saucy little friends, and consequently the barrage of hints about a Collie pup. I am trying hard not to hear them until we get the acreage I've always wanted, but I imagine it won't be too long until we have some kind of a pet again.

Plans are advanced for the extension of the P.G.E. railway, owned by the British Columbia government, to Dawson Creek and Fort St. John in the Peace River area.

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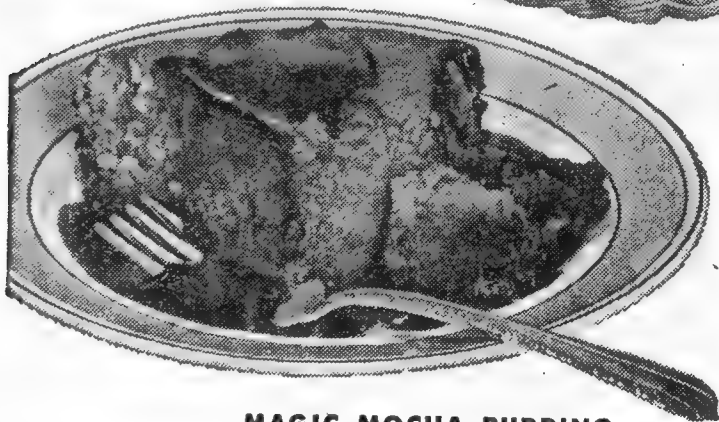
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MAGIC MOCHA PUDDING (Self-sauced with Chocolate)

- 3 ounces (3 squares) unsweetened chocolate
- 1½ tbsps. corn starch
- 2 cups fine granulated sugar
- 2½ cups water
- 1½ cups once-sifted cake flour
- 2½ tps. Magic Baking Powder
- ½ tsp. salt
- 2 tps. powdered instant coffee
- 6 tbsps. butter or margarine
- 1 egg, well-beaten
- ½ cup milk
- ½ tsp. vanilla

Melt the chocolate in the top of double boiler. Combine the corn starch and 1½ cups of the sugar and stir into melted chocolate. Stir in water. Cook over low direct heat, stirring constantly, until sauce comes to the boil; cover and keep hot over boiling water until needed.

Grease a 6-cup casserole. Preheat oven to 350° (moderate).

Sift flour, Magic Baking Powder, salt and instant coffee together three times. Cream butter or margarine; gradually blend in remaining ½ cup sugar. Add well-beaten egg, part at a time, beating well after each addition. Measure milk and add vanilla. Add flour mixture to creamed mixture about a third at a time, alternating with two additions of milk and vanilla and combining lightly after each addition. Turn batter into prepared casserole. Pour 2 cups of hot chocolate sauce over batter. (Keep remaining sauce over hot water to serve with pudding.) Bake pudding in preheated oven about 50 minutes. Pass remaining hot sauce.

Magic costs less than 1¢ per average baking



Aunt Sal Suggests

*"November is a gloomy month,"
We hear folks often say;
So let's exchange some happy
thoughts,
To chase the gloom away.*

ALTHOUGH many of us are really fond of canning, we draw a satisfied sigh of relief when we can line up all the filled jars in the cellar and think, "Praise be the job is done for another year!" Possibly, like me, about the last thing you "did up" was ripe cucumber pickle and preserves. A big box of these ripened before I could get them out of the way and I started phoning my neighbors to see if they wanted some of them. One jolly woman, laughingly, cried, "Oh, no, I'm looking for things that don't mean work. Now if you happen to have some bananas to spare I'll take them."

Wouldn't she have been surprised if I'd answered, "Yes, I'll give you bananas if you promise to make them into pickles."

One of our readers, Mrs. C. L., of Dapp, Alta., sent me a recipe for making banana pickle that she tells us came from the pages of a very old English book. It really sounds intriguing and I thought I'd share it with you all. It bears the name of:

Banana Chutney: 12 bananas, ½ lb. sultana raisins, 1 oz. curry powder, 2 onions, ½ lb. sugar, ½ tsp. cayenne pepper, 1 tsp. cinnamon, 3 tbsps. salt, ½ pt. vinegar. This is the way this odd pickle is made: Simmer the cut up bananas in vinegar until soft and pulpy. Add sugar while it is still hot. Leave to cool while you are chopping up onions and raisins. Add them and all the rest of ingredients to the cooled banana pulp. Stir in well and let stand for 12 hours. Spoon into sterile jars and seal.

Of course when it comes to intriguing recipes there are few that can beat that one for the beet soup that it commonly named Borsch. I was very pleased at the response that came in for your interpretation of this recipe. Pardon me if I tell you that I think some of your offerings were no more "the real McCoy" than that one I came up with in the September copy. I have read over and checked each one very carefully but it is my humble opinion that the only two that sounded genuine were those coming from Mrs. M. V., of Thrums, B.C., and Mrs. K. P., Nelson, B.C. They were practically identical and so, dear readers, here we go with the rich, stick-to-your-ribs soup:

Russian Borsch: First Mixture calls for these: 2 qts. water into which you add 5 or 6 chopped potatoes, 4 or 5 carrots and one beet root and salt to taste. Boil until vegetables are done.

Second Mixture which is prepared in heavy skillet is concerned with browning 1 large chopped onion in ½ lb. butter. Then add one 15-oz. can tomatoes (or just juice), 1 chopped cabbage, 1 green pepper, few sprigs of parsley and dash of pepper. When well cooked add to the pot with the cooked mashed vegetables and simmer a few minutes without stirring. There is also a pint of sweet cream called for.

Most recipes said this should be

beaten into the mashed vegetable mixture before combining with the skillet mixture but some state that gobs of sour cream should be tossed on the soup after it is dished up in the soup plates. I fancy, for those of us who want to keep a semblance of a waistline, we'll just give the nod to the cream all together.

The subject of home-made cheese has raised its head in this department again and I told you I thought it was about time to give the cheesemakers their say, but I've decided to postpone this until after Christmas. But those of you who have really made cheese successfully please send in your recipes along with any explanatory comments. I don't want just some recipe you've clipped from a magazine that "sounded good" but you'd never tried it out. I can do that myself, you know. I want real true experience stories. Several of these have come in already and I've filed these away for future reference.

I had planned to give you some recipes you could use for your pre-Christmas baking this time, but I changed my mind and am deferring these until the December issue. It seems to me that almost all of you must have your tried-and-true recipes for fruit cake and pudding to serve at the yuletide so I'll just pass on some other recipes that don't need to be ripened. For instance there is an apple sauce fruit cake I tried last year and found so good. You can stir this up just a few days before December 25th and it is good enough to compete with the expensive rich cake. And one reader already wrote in for suggestions about displaying the cards in different ways. I'll chat to you about that too. I hate to have to start thinking and planning towards Christmas before November, but it has to be. To avoid disappointments will you get your thinking caps on and get those questions relating to Christmas in early. And I do mean EARLY! I have a very vivid remembrance of what it was like last year when I was frantically searching and typing letters to try my very (I nearly said it), but I'll primly say instead, "my very best" to get them all back to you in time. I hate to disappoint anyone and especially anyone as nice as the readers of this page are.

Remember in the September issue when I suggested that you stop procrastinating the writing of that letter you'd been meaning to write? Well apparently that particular letter was to me. You see I didn't know that. So during that month 400 of you took pen in hand and wrote and how I'd like to share the contents of those letters with you. I can tell you they were all worth reading. They were so sweet and so interesting that they made me smile . . . they made me laugh out loud . . . and some of them made a lump come in my throat. So many of you told me you liked seeing me smiling at you from the top of the page. One reader really got carried away with herself and stated that she wished I'd keep on smiling at the readers for "a thousand years" I'm feared my face muscles would get mighty stiff by that time.

Very often some question is raised on this page that involves the quoting of some manufacturing company. For instance when we talked about that contraption one affixed to the sewing machine that turned it into a spinning device. I passed on the address of the Spin Well Products, Sifton, Manitoba. And now one reader tells us that this firm wrote her they had withdrawn this device and wonders why. My dears, don't ask me "why", one never knows these things. I'm

sorry of course but every time I mention some business address I wonder how long this information will be of use to you. This is a world of changes, but here is something that never changes. Bye bye for now, and every good wish.

Aunt Sal.

Let's Ask Aunt Sal

*You've asked me lots of questions,
They came in day by day;
I hope you'll find these answers,
Will help you in some way.*

WITHOUT any preliminary remarks I'll plunge right into the questions I have picked out to grace (isn't that a nice word?) the column below.

Q.: May I, too, have the pattern for the velvet cushion that has a padded rose atop? (Twenty-five requests have come in to date.)

A.: I haven't as yet been able to find this pattern. One lady did write in that she had this pattern, but she hasn't written me again to tell me whether she feels like forwarding it to me. Don't give up, though. I have your letters all on hand and shall supply as soon as I receive it.

Q.: Have you a recipe for a home-made hand cleaner like that used by mechanics in garages? — (Mrs. G. W., Wilkie, Sask.)

A.: Hand Cleaner (I have never made this myself, but here it is):

1 lb. home-made soap shaved up (I fancy one could use soap flakes), 2 cups hot water, 1 oz. light mineral oil, 1 pound powdered pumice stone. Combine all ingredients except last one stirring well. When cool enough to handle add pumice stone and work well by hand.

Store this paste in glass jars and cover tightly to prevent drying out.

Q.: Where can I get Irish moss? How can I prepare it? — (Mrs. F. A., Millet, Alta.)

A.: My druggist tells me that any druggist can get this for you, but they are not too keen to keep it on hand as it hasn't good keeping qualities. I have not been able to find any recipes for using it. (Any comments will be appreciated.)

Q.: What is the address for the magazine, "The Canadian Poetry Magazine?" — (Mrs. A. F., Lashburn, Sask.)

A.: This is the address given me by our public librarian: 677 Dundas Street West, Toronto, Ontario.

Q.: Can you find the recipe for candy that is made of apple sauce and it also has jello in it?

A.: Apple Delights (I fancy this is the one.) Dissolve one pkg. strawberry jello in one cup of hot apple sauce over low heat. Remove from heat and add about ½ cup of chopped nut meats. Turn into buttered loaf pan and chill until firm. Cut into one-inch cubes and roll in confectionery sugar. Let stand over night. Then roll again in confectionery sugar. (Makes 3 dozen candies.)

Q.: How can I prepare small fish such as herring? I would also like some other good fish recipes. Where could I get such a collection of recipes? — (Mrs. R. D., Boyle, Alta.)

A.: I have just such a book and it is called "Canadian Fish Recipes." It is free and one can get it by writing to Dept. of Fisheries, Ottawa, Ont..

Q.: My problem is a very damp cellar in which the walls and even my

fruit jars are all coated with mould. I have heard that charcoal is good for this situation. Have you any other advice to offer, please?

A.: I wrote this lady privately, but I feel, as I told her, that it is a problem that should be handled by someone more expert than I. I wonder if any others have had this problem and worked it out successfully and would care to write in and tell us about it.

Q.: Have you any suggestions for bleaching a man's white nylon tricot shirt that has become rather "off white"?

A.: There are now nylon bleaches on the market. One of these that I have used and liked very much is called pro-nyl and is made especially for white nylon.

Aunt Sal.

City harvest

By Mrs. A. B.

ONE morning I was washing dishes and mentally sorting out the day's chores when my attention was caught by the weather forecaster's voice, cheerfully reporting rain this evening, turning to snow and frost. I thought, "Oh, here I am, with a multitude of chores to do, bread to bake, canning to do and the potatoes still in the garden! Well, Henry will just have to dig them after supper that's all."

But Henry had other ideas so, with his promise to help with dishes I went to the garden, too, leaving the remains of supper on the table and the children in the living-room.

Two hours later in cold, drizzling rain we carried the last sack down to the vegetable bins.

I suggested a cup of nice hot tea before starting dishes, and so we started up to the kitchen. But at the door we were stopped dead in our tracks.

Our children were proudly beaming at us from the midst of their handiwork. My little girl had concocted a casserole mixture of everything on the table — meat, vegetables, stewed fruit, ketchup, etc. "Now Mommy won't have to cook dinner tomorrow," she said happily.

My little boy had decided to scrub the floor; so he emptied the soap-box on the floor and then a saucepan of water. He said he wanted to do a real good job. It was, but not the way he had planned it.

So Father and I bundled them off to bed and a few hours later with everything ship-shape again we made a resolution that next year we are going to dig the vegetables early in the daytime; stake the kids out in the garden with us if necessary and then, when we see our neighbors frantically gathering their harvest we can smile knowingly at each other as we visualize the pandemonium going on in their houses.

To enrich gravies, soups, vegetable juices and stews, use the liquid in which vegetables have been boiled. This contains minerals and vitamins drawn from the vegetables during cooking, which should not be thrown away.

A child's diet forms part of the foundation on which is built his future health. A youngster who grows up on a balanced diet will probably have a stronger body and better health than one who, has been given less carefully chosen meals, regardless of the cost of the food.

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Mix it quick

By HILDA CROOK

I NEVER have been one of those people who make cakes that simply melt in your mouth, I always preferred making cookies.

But, now I really can make a nice light cake, with so little trouble and fuss. All I use is a bowl, spoon and cup. In five minutes my cake is ready for the oven, and far, yes far, far lighter than when I went to a lot of trouble beating the butter and sugar to a cream, sifting the flour a couple of times, etc.

What I do now is make a cream cake, it's simpler and quicker and I don't have to churn the butter first and then beat it smooth with the sugar (we never buy creamery butter as we much prefer dairy butter).

Now, perhaps some of you who don't have just wonderful cakes would like to try my basic recipe, so here is exactly what I do:

Get out your mixing bowl, measuring cup, mixing spoon and a teaspoon for the flavoring. Break 2 eggs into the cup, fill with cream, pour this into the bowl and, without stirring, add: 1 cup sugar, 1 teaspoon flavoring 1½ cups flour, pinch of salt, 2 fairly heaping teaspoons baking powder.

My teaspoon is always left in the can of baking powder.

Now start beating, then add ½ cup separated milk and beat another few minutes. Turn into greased pan and bake.

If I want a cocoanut cake I just add cocoanut and leave out the equivalent of flour; add cocoanut flavoring or a chocolate cake, I add 2 tablespoons cocoa and take 2 tablespoons of flour out. As I always use one of those rubber scrapers, I clean my

mixing bowl real good and make my icing right in the same bowl and spoon which saves washing.

One of my favorite quick icings is made of icing sugar, butter, Nescafe coffee made smooth with boiling water.

As soon as my cake is baked and cooled some, I have the icing all ready to put on and can wash up the few things right away.

Some of you people who don't have any too good luck with cakes, try this recipe and see if it doesn't make a really lighter cake than with all the fuss of the usual method.

I don't know if other people are like me when there is some special occasion to make a cake for, you try to make something extra nice only to find it hasn't risen half as well as your ordinary ones.

It nearly always happens with me that when I bake a cake and scoop out the centre for Boston cream pie, it's just the lightest cake you ever saw, or at least the lightest I ever saw that I had made. The other day I made double the quantity as I wanted a cottage pudding for dinner and a chocolate cake for lunch. When it was beaten I poured half out into the pan for the pudding, then added some cocoa and a little more milk to what was left.

Both turned out nice and light, I'm glad to say, so here's luck to heavy cake makers.

Candy, pie and cake won't necessarily hurt your teeth, providing you use your toothbrush immediately after eating them. It is necessary to wash away any particles remaining in the mouth to prevent the formation of destructive acids.

Christmas Mincemeat

By HENRIETTA K. BUTLER

MINCEMEAT is a part of the Christmas fare which must be made well in advance. Some cooks make it as much as three months ahead. Storage and standing seems to help develop the rich full flavor of blended fruits, spices and juices.

There was a time as far back as 1650 in England, when spices were not as plentifully available as they are now. At that time oranges and lemons took the place of spices for flavoring. No doubt the effect was very delightful, but lacking in pungency and aroma.

Here are two old recipes which were evidently concocted at the time spices came to the pantry shelves.

Lemon Mincement

- ½ cup good shortening
- 4 apples
- 2 large lemons
- ¼ lb. chopped candied lemon peel
- 1 lb. currants
- ½ cup chopped nut meats
- 1 tsp. salt
- 1 tsp. ginger
- 1 tsp. ground nutmeg
- ½ cup seeded raisins
- 1½ cups sugar
- 1 tsp. powdered cinnamon
- 1 tsp. powdered allspice
- 1 tsp. powdered cloves

Extract juice from lemons and remove pips. Now put lemons into saucepan, cover with water, and boil until lemon feels very tender. Change water at least twice, drain and pound peel to a paste, and apples, cored, peeled and chopped, lemon peel, shortening, currants, raisins, salt, spices, lemon juice, nutmeats and sugar. Put into a jar and cover. Store till ripened.

Sufficient for about 4 pies.

Sixty-year-old Recipe for Mincemeat

- 6 lbs. russet apples, pared, cored and finely chopped
- 2 lbs. minced beef suet
- 3 lbs. well washed currants
- 2 lbs. stoned raisins
- ½ lb. lemon and orange peel
- 2 tps. of each, nutmeg, cinnamon and mixed spice
- 3 tps. ground ginger and 1 tsp. salt
- 2 lbs. brown sugar and
- ½ pint of brandy

A frequent stirring is desirable for the first week after making this. Then it may be put up in jars and tied down. It will keep good for three months. Will make a lot of pies.

Supplemental allowances for old-age pensioners in Saskatchewan have been increased by \$10 a month on a means test. The former rate was \$2.50 a month together with free hospitalization and medical services. There are 7,763 old-age pensioners in that province.

The cost of catering to human ills in Canada — doctors, dentists, hospitals, nurses, drugs and treatment — was \$840 millions in 1954, according to the department of National Health and Welfare. Over 40 per cent is borne by governments, mainly the provincial and federal.

The first coal mine in Alberta was started in 1869 when Nichols Sheran, a gold prospector, discovered a coal seam on the St. Mary river near Fort Whoopie. He began a one-man industry, selling coal to freighters who, in turn, disposed of the product to settlements in Montana. The province's coal industry reached a peak in 1946 when 8,824,445 tons were produced.

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BASIC ONE-RISING SPECIALTY DOUGH

Measure into a large bowl

- 1 cup lukewarm water
- 2 teaspoons granulated sugar

and stir until sugar is dissolved.

Sprinkle with contents of

- 2 envelopes Fleischmann's Active Dry Yeast

Let stand 10 minutes, THEN stir well, stir in

- 1¼ cups lukewarm water
- 3 teaspoons salt

Stir in

- 4 cups once-sifted bread flour

and beat until batter is smooth and very elastic.

Cream in a large bowl

- ¾ cup butter or margarine

Gradually blend in

- ¾ cup fine granulated sugar

Gradually beat in

- 3 well-beaten eggs

Add to yeast mixture, about a third at a time, beating well after each addition.

Mix in

- 3 cups more once-sifted bread flour

Divide soft dough into 3 bowls to finish as three specialties.



- 1. Butterscotch Nut Buns** Melt 3 tablespoons butter or margarine in 8-inch square pan; brush sides of pan with fat; mix in 1 tablespoon corn syrup, ½ cup lightly-packed brown sugar and ½ cup broken walnuts or pecans. Combine in a shallow bowl ½ cup sugar, 1 teaspoon cinnamon and ½ teaspoon nutmeg. Cut out rounded spoonfuls of dough, coat with cinnamon mixture and place in pan; sprinkle with any remaining spiced sugar. Cover and let rise until double in bulk. Bake in moderately hot oven, 375°, about 35 minutes.
- 2. Cheese Pull-Aparts** Line bottom of

a greased 8-inch square pan with greased waxed paper. Cut half of dough into rounded spoonfuls; place in pan; sprinkle with 2 cups shredded cheese. Spoon remaining half of dough on top; grease tops. Cover and let rise until doubled in bulk. Bake in moderately hot oven, 375°, about 35 minutes.

- 3. Seed Buns** Cut out rounded spoonfuls of dough and drop into greased muffin pans—each spoonful should about half fill a pan. Brush with melted butter or margarine; sprinkle with poppy seeds. Cover and let rise until doubled in bulk. Bake in moderately hot oven, 375°, 20 to 25 minutes.

Thoughts on the Past

The tractor on the land and the car and truck on the roads do a far more efficient job of it, but, just the same, there must be more than one old-timer who looks back a little wistfully at the days when a well-matched team was a possession above price. The friendly nicker of the horses in the barn at feeding time is heard no more and the merry jingle of sleigh bells, as the homemaker shook his team into a trot just to let the wife know he was nearing home, may have been replaced by the "horn" but it surely has lost something in the transition from old to new.

There are compensations, no doubt. Early morning rising, especially in the chill dark of winter, is no longer

necessary. Breakfast comes first, and then a trip to the shed to start the motor going and warm it up for the day's work. Tying up at a hitching rail is no longer necessary and blanketing against the cold not of such vital importance as it was. But, something has departed from the West never to return, and in the minds and hearts of many an oldtimer, this change from the horse to the machine must leave a sense of loss, a feeling that something that was worth while and good has gone from our midst for ever.

Why not a statue — a poor old, broken-down broncho, harness and all, standing high on a marble plinth in front of our legislative buildings at Regina?



(Continued from page 22)

speculative horsemen. Some would bring in their 'bunches' of broncs, overland; buying them at one or other of the large ranches in the South, and, at certain times of the year, when the grass was plentiful, driving them in a bunch from corral to corral, till they arrived fat and sleek at their destination. The great majority, however, of these imports came via the box-car route over the line from Regina. Whatever might have been their means of arrival their end was always the same. Some newly arrived homesteader would require a team to help him make a grubstake at threshing time, or a farmer, with a growing acreage of cultivated land would need more power to keep things moving. But whatever it might be or whoever it was who needed horses, the dealer would have them ready. Halter-broken, guaranteed quiet and manageable, and if it was imperative, he would break them in for you himself. That was how it went; halter broken and sound, and dirt cheap at two hundred bucks. "Time? Oh, sure, give me a small payment down and the rest after threshing." And so it went, day after day, month after month, till the whole community was fairly bristling with teams of freshly broken broncos.

Horse Breaking

These horses, prior to their purchase by the dealer, had most probably felt the touch of a man's hand on their wiry bodies, and certainly were quite unfamiliar with harness of any kind, so a halter-broken horse meant exactly what it claimed. They had been roped and haltered, tied up in a narrow stall — to prevent too much leeway — and left to worry themselves into submission. Sometimes, when tied behind a purchaser's wagon, on the way out to its future home, this halter-broken bronc would kick up a bit of a dust. He might

even try lying down, in a frantic effort to stay put and not co-operate with the new master, but, as a rule, these first tantrums would soon be over, and within a very short time he would be hitched with three other horses, pulling a plough, or jogging along the trail, more or less reconciled to his new role in life as a farm horse.

From the beginning of the century until the advent of the tractor and car, horses played a star role in everything that went on in the province. Teams thronged the trails at threshing time, hauling the freshly-threshed grain to the elevators. In the very early days the trails leading from the valley to Prince Albert would be alive with teams, coming and going; and later, when the line had been built and towns had sprung up with their grain elevators and stores, the roads would be thicker than ever with these patient broncho teams, hauling loads into town and jogging home in the evening.

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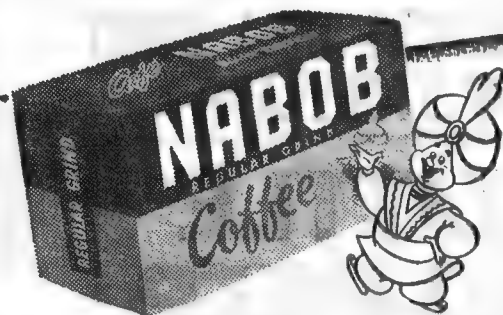
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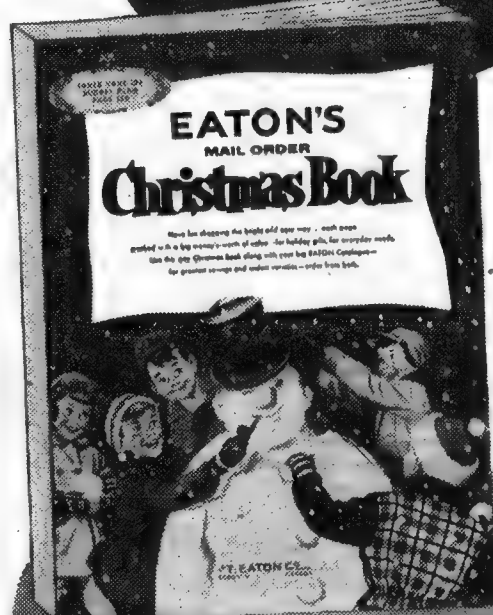
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Our Hutterite Neighbors

By C. FRANK STEELE

THERE is "Corn in Egypt" as it were, in the Hutterite Colonies of Alberta. "The Lord has smiled on us—our crops are bountiful—and we give Him the glory," said Bishop John Wurz, spiritual overlord of the Hutterian Brethren congregations in this province as he looked over the golden harvest of the Wilson Colony, southeast of Lethbridge. It is there the genial bishop lives, and where often the minor preachers of this interesting, land-loving people gather in conference.

They feel they have been greatly favored in this Alberta Jubilee year. Said Bishop Wurz, now venerable and wise: "This is a land of promise to us—we like Alberta, it is our home. We have prospered here and want to remain and work the land we have acquired and raise our families." But he admitted there is a fly in the ointment—they need more land. And under the restrictive legislation in force in Alberta they are finding it difficult to acquire needed land for "daughter colonies." Numbers of the older colonies—there are upwards of 40 in Alberta—are ready to "swarm". To do this they must have land. Some groups have divided, the "parent" remaining in Alberta, the

"daughter" group starting new colonies in Montana. And they are doing fairly well in their new home across the line but still prefer Alberta.

The Hutterites have survived the centuries and are still intact although their history is red with the blood of martyrs. They stem back to the Reformation originating in the puritan Anabaptist movement who sprang up in the Tyrolean Alps among the Swiss Brethren about 1500. Jacob Huter, who founded the new movement which at one time was part of the Mennonite brotherhood, was burned at the stake for his faith in 1536 at Innsbruck in the Tyrol. But "the blood of the martyrs" proved the seed of the saints and the Hutterian movement grew in numbers and zeal. Often these simple, God-fearing Christian people defied the state, although never once did they fight back. It is against their religious principles; they turn the other cheek, never retaliate.

And so in their four centuries of history they have suffered a series of great migrations in search of freedom and a home. And they still wonder if they have found it. They have moved from Moravia to Hungary, then to sanctuary in old czarist Russia, where they prospered for a time.



Jake Wurz, son of Bishop John Wurz, of the Hutterite faith, showing the writer a field ready for harvest at the prosperous Wilson Siding colony, southeast of Lethbridge.

Then when the squeeze there started they looked to the West settling in South Dakota where colonies sprang up on the soil of the New World.

They prospered for a time and grew

in numbers and wealth. Then came the First World War and being a "peace at any price" people refusing to take up arms even in self defence, they ran into trouble with the authorities. Their neighbors became hostile and again they moved—that is, the main body. And this time they came to Canada—first to Manitoba and then to Alberta. A few struggled to hold together in Germany, but were uprooted in the Hitler purge, the state confiscating their properties. They found refuge in England, where some now reside and are doing well.

They Like Alberta

They have looked afar for new places of sanctuary for their overflowing colonies in Canada: Mexico, South America and other countries. But Alberta has won the day, their leaders agreeing that this is where God wants their people. And in Him they trust to give them peace and security.

The move into Canada was made in 1918, three colonies being set up in Manitoba and 10 later in Alberta. There are probably close to 10,000 Hutterites now in the world, the bulk of them in Canada. There are only five colonies in the hearthstone of the faith in America—South Dakota. Their colonies checkerboard the prairies and foothills of Southern Alberta and there would be many more if they could get the land. There is one colony in Northern Alberta trying their luck in the parklands. They prefer the plains and have little use for irrigation. They are good, dry land farmers running heavily to grain.

Complete social equality exists in the colonies with the community of goods and services. In fact, their faith, which is rugged and simple, is based on the old apostolic church of the Apostles which had "all things in common." In the beginning, the leaders spread a coat upon an open field and upon it and near it they laid their possessions as a symbol of their full surrender to their faith. In the colonies in Alberta, particularly in a Bruderhof near Fort Macleod, are to be found many very old books and manuscripts, letters and sermons, all in German, dating back to the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries. These form part of the imposing bibliography of the religion, officially "The Hutterian Brothers." Hutterite leaders say they retain the German in their religious practice because the standard books of their faith are in

(Continued on page 30)

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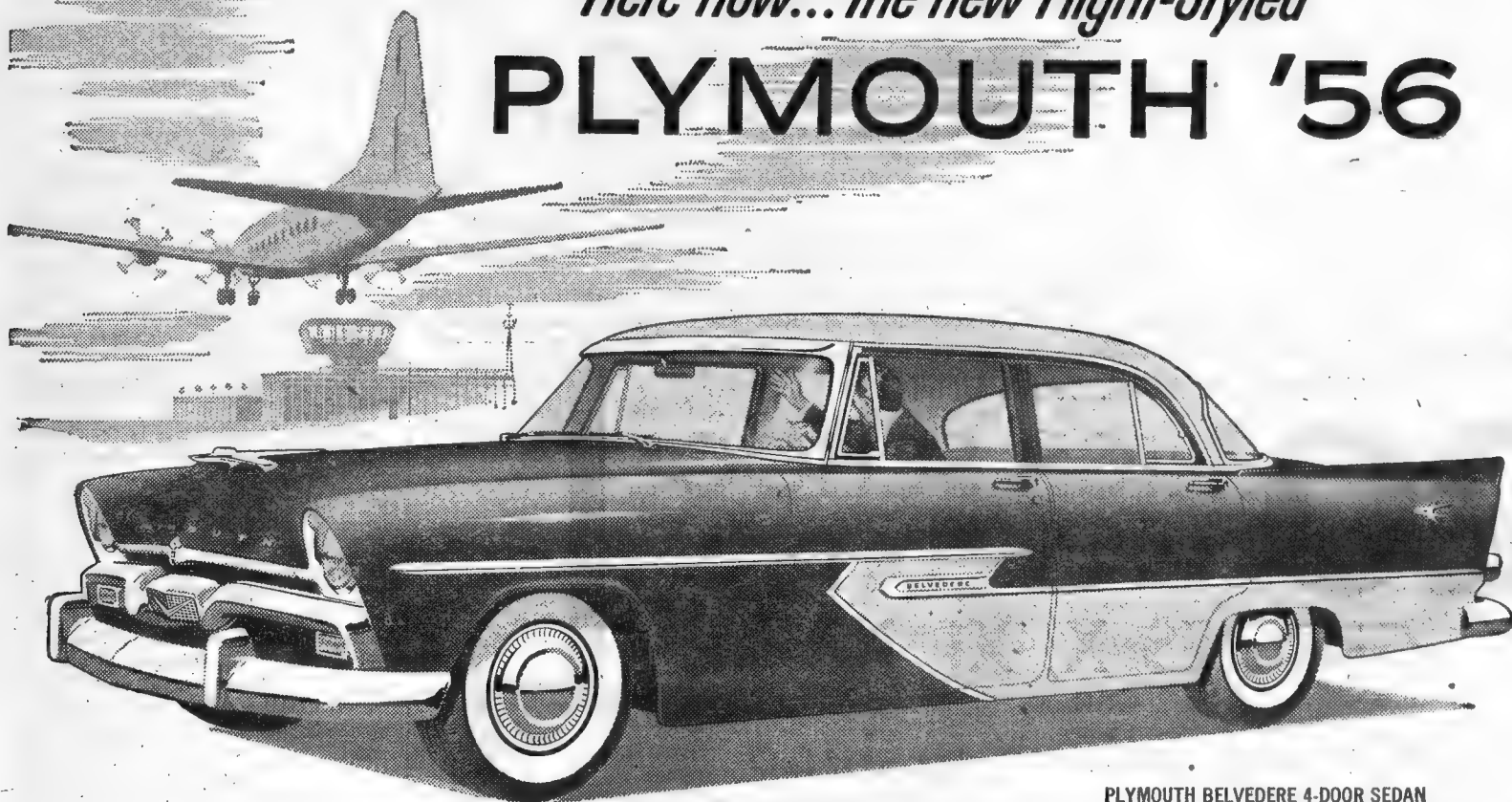
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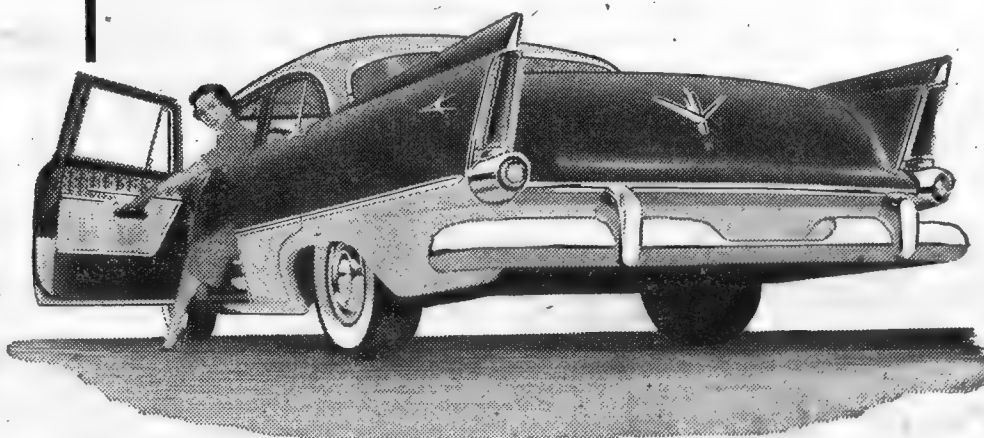
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(Continued from page 28)

that language and would suffer by translation. English is taught in the colony schools, of course, but German after school hours.

One Big Family

The Hutterites and Mennonites should not be confused. They are now separate and distinct yet by a strange twist of destiny they find themselves close neighbors now in Southern Alberta. The Mennonites are essentially individualists although the brotherhood and neighborhood ideal remains strong; the Hutterites live the communal life wholly. The group is one big family, all share alike. No one has personal property, when they go into the brotherhood they surrender all private property

rights. They share and share alike; needs are met out of the common purse and the purse is usually filled. The colonies are rich; a good many old farmers and first settlers in this country have sold out to the Hutterites mainly because "they were good pay." Usually, land deals are made for cash. While automobiles are still taboo, trucks and power machinery are in general use. The plain, austere, wooden colony houses are electrically lighted and are often fitted with natural gas. Labor-saving gadgets are to be found in the kitchens.

Old World Practices

It is rare that a member quits the colony, although this has been known. The feeling of security is still strong although there are evidences of

"worldliness" among the younger generation; this the leaders are combating as best they can. Is it a losing fight? The preachers and bosses or stewards, who handle the farms, market the crops and control the purse strings, point in answer to four centuries in which the brotherhood has weathered every storm and there have been storms aplenty. They have retained their distinctive teachings, their communal way of life, the ideal of "being in the world but not of it," and their ancient, Old World homespun dress, made in the colonies, essentially the same garb as that worn by their founding fathers. All eat together, the men on one side of the table, the women on the other. The youngsters eat in another hall until they are 15 when they are rated

adults. Food, plain but wholesome, is served in enormous quantities. The bonesetter (an expert first-aid) takes care of a lot of the common ailments and they are pretty clever at it. The skill is handed down from father to son. Major cases are handled by regular doctors and hospitals and the best is none too good. Bills are paid on the spot. The dead are buried in the colony graveyards, which are pretty drab affairs. A minister, or sometimes two, look after the spiritual needs of the colony, the elected steward handles the business. The colony funds are placed in chartered banks and carefully husbanded. Foodstuffs and farm equipment are bought wholesale. Apples roll in by the carload. The colonists do not become citizens — one of the sources of criticism from their neighbors — yet their leaders will explain they pray for the Queen and the rulers of the land.

Life for the Hutterite is frugal and bare. There are no mirrors, no pictures, no radios — each colony gets one daily paper and each has a telephone. Church meetings are held daily. Married men never shave, they are bearded — that is how you tell they are enjoying wedded bliss. Women do not curl their hair and a "permanent" is a thing unheard to a Hutterite lass. Dancing is outlawed, it is of "the world" and sinful. The Hutterites will not assimilate; they fear any move in that direction because it would spell disintegration. Yet force is never applied to a member of the colony. A disgruntled member, possibly a restless youth, is allowed to leave if he wishes, but the leaders say: "He'll soon be back. He finds the 'world' is pretty cold compared to the peace and plenty of the colony."

And so the Hutterites look to the future with confidence — that is, the leaders do. They do the thinking, they set the policy. "All we ask is peace—I wish our politicians and neighbors would understand this. We don't covet anything. We want to be good farmers, law abiding and thrifty. We teach our children to work as well as to attend their school classes. And in times of trouble we look to God and He never forsakes us," to again quote Bishop Wurz.

Estimating housing units constructed this year at 110,000 gives a total of 378,000 housing units constructed in Canada from 1951 to 1954 inclusive. Some 300,000 people were employed in such construction and business was further expanded by the need for furniture, fixtures, appliances and for the construction of new roads, utilities, schools and so on.

A major study of the resources, economy and industry of the Province of Alberta, with the aim of predicting the directions and rapidity of the province's economic development, has now been underway for four months, it was jointly announced today by Calgary Power Ltd., Calgary, and the J. T. Donald Co., Limited., Montreal firm of chemical and economic consultants. The study, sponsored by Calgary Power Ltd., will be carried out by a team of scientists, economists and market experts who make up the Economic and Market Research Department of the J. T. Donald firm. Scheduled for completion in a year to eighteen months, the investigation will probe every aspect of Alberta's economic life.

Last year honey production in British Columbia totalled 1,143,000 lbs., about 45 per cent of the domestic consumption of that province.

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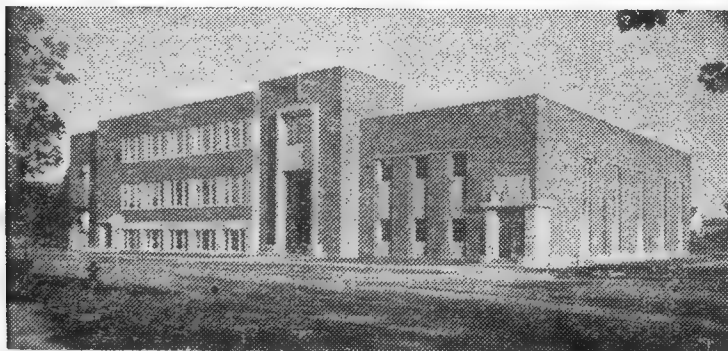
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EXPERIENCE has shown that most sows are incapable of supplying through their milk all the food necessary for a big, vigorous litter of pigs after they reach 3 to 4 weeks old.

When about 3 weeks old the young pigs will begin to eat solid feed. Shorts and sifted oats chop are palatable and nourishing.

Commercial "pig starters" make up a complete feed and can be used to good advantage at this stage.

Clean, fresh water should be available to the little pigs at all times.

The separate feeding is accomplished by means of a "creep" or barrier which can be erected in a corner of the pen, leaving an opening of such size that the little pigs can run in and out while the sow is excluded.

Mixed farm study

OVER a longer period of time hogs appear to be the most profitable farm livestock, according to Alf Petersen of the Alberta Department of Agriculture. Mr. Petersen has been conducting the Mixed Farm Study over the last four years for the Department.

Out of a total of 50 mixed farms studied in the Leduc-Wetaskiwin areas, the 3 top income farms over the last 3 years kept hogs as a major livestock enterprise. These farms averaged well over \$5,000.00 per year for their own labor management and risk as compared to only \$1,200.00 for the total group of 50 farms and \$1,800 for the 19 farms carrying hogs.

The three high income farms each produced over 175 hogs per year, nearly double the number produced by each of the other 16 hog producing farms on the study. This, according to Mr. Petersen, brings out the effect of size of operation on net income on a hog farm, even though feed grain may have to be bought to increase hog output.

The income from hogs on the 19 farms studied amounted to approximately 45 per cent of the total gross farm receipts for the three-year period. Mr. Petersen points out that higher income farmers are more able to take advantage of improved methods of production. As a result more high quality hogs are shipped from these farms.

— FARM NOTES —

Canadian farmers spent \$7,395,123 on crop sprays and dusts in 1954. The value of livestock treatments was \$2,759,866.

A new supply of certified seed is needed periodically to keep up grain quality and to get rid of weeds. After 4 or 5 years the quality of certified seed drops off substantially.

The federal bureau of statistics estimates that this autumn's pig crop is likely to total 4,500,000, compared with 3,970,000 in the autumn of 1954. The expected increase will be 19 per cent in Eastern Canada and 8 per cent in the west.

Commercial beef cattle supplements are becoming increasingly popular and offer advantages over linseed oilmeal and rapeseed oilmeal. The commercial supplements are sold as concentrates containing either 24 or 32 per cent protein. It is usually advisable to purchase the 32 per cent product which contains little, if any, grain. It is made up of a variety of protein feeds and several mineral and vitamin supplements.

Saskatchewan has 1,457 oil wells and 126 gas wells. The daily recoverable oil runs around 23,512 barrels.

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GIVES A TIP ON PROFITABLE DAIRY FEEDING

HOW ARE THEY MILKING, TOM?

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THAT SO, BILL? WHAT'LL I DO?

FIRST, KEEP UP THE GOOD CARE—THERE'S NO SUBSTITUTE FOR IT. AND FEED 'EM MIRACLE DAIRY FEEDS, FOR THE BEST POSSIBLE FLOW YOUR COWS CAN GIVE

I'LL TRY IT

YOUR SON TELLS ME THEY'RE MILKING BETTER, TOM

10 WEEKS LATER

YES, I FIGURE I'M GETTING FULL PRODUCTION NOW—THANKS TO YOU AND MIRACLE FEEDS

MIRACLE Dairy Feeds include:

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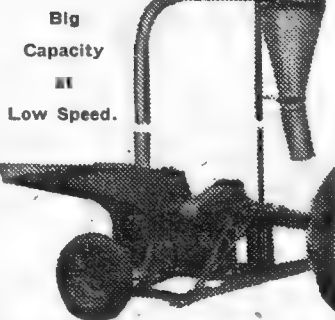
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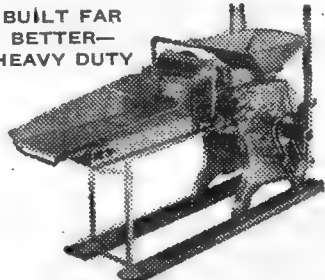
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 Model 113C—Combination 13" Hammer Mill and Cutterhead Mill, travelling feed table, automatic governor, grain hopper, 3-knife cutting head. Price, F.O.B. Calgary **\$645.00**
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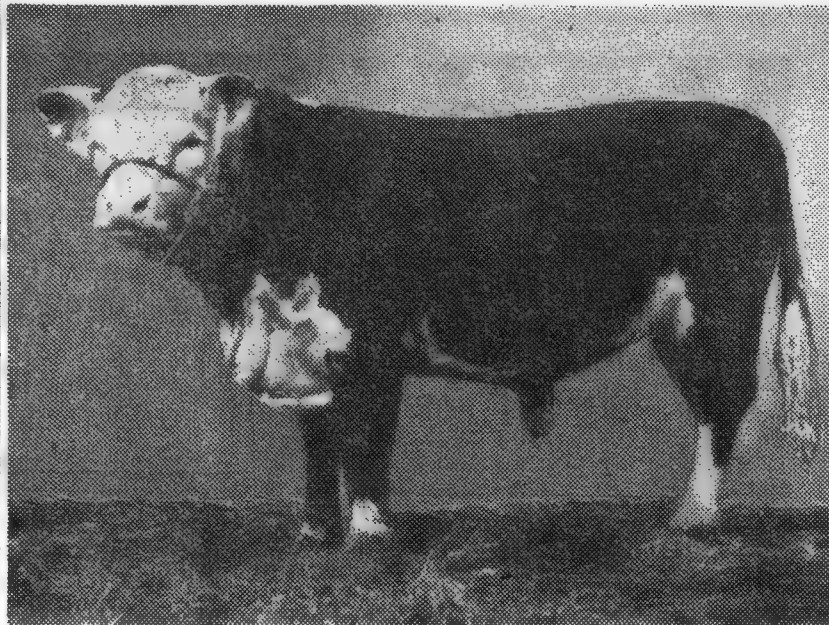
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Entered at Royal Winter Fair



INVERLAKE Polled Hereford Farm, Robert Arthur, prop., Langdon P.O., Alberta, is entering Woodford Mischief, born Aug. 24, 1954, Reg. No. X430183, in the forthcoming Toronto Royal Winter Fair. This young bull, which weighs 1,135 lbs., is pictured above. His pedigree: Sire, Woodford Gem 3E, X281942; dam Bonnie Mischief 6Y, X349543. Sire of sire, Wood-

ford D17, X251910; dam of sire, Lady Standard 12 X251820. Sire of dam, Woodford D17 X251810; dam of dam, Lady Mischief 1D, X278130.

"Bob" Arthur is widely known as a breeder of Polled Hereford and has made a success in this field. After a very successful sale last year he is re-building his herd.

Lowering egg production costs

THERE are two main fields in which the individual egg producer can gain maximum profits on his poultry flock. Firstly, he can "ride the poultry cycle" on a seasonal basis by preparing early layers in order to sell on the early market when the supply is low; and on a yearly basis by studying poultry population to see whether egg production is likely to be above or below average for the coming year.

Secondly, the individual egg producer can increase his poultry profits by lowering his production costs. Egg production per hen has the greatest effect on poultry production costs according to Alf Petersen of the Alberta Department of Agriculture. Mr. Petersen has been conducting the Mixed Farm Study for the Department over the last four years.

The study revealed that a hen producing eggs at the rate of 125 eggs a year produces them at a cost of 62c

a dozen. A hen producing eggs at the rate of more than 150 a year does so at 36c a dozen. In a year each 150-a-year-hen will save a producer \$3.25 in production costs.

Mr. Petersen goes on to point out that the size of flock is another important profit feature. Farms with over 500 hens could produce eggs at 15c a dozen cheaper than those carrying less than 300 hens. Those with 3-500 birds could produce eggs at 8c a dozen cheaper than those with less than 300 hens.

These then are the two main items to remember in lowering egg production costs: High production per hen, and larger than average sized flock. The two go hand in hand. A large flock with low production will not be profitable, and conversely, a small flock with good production will not give the operator a large overall profit.

SHORT CUTS

Since the 1920's the yield per acre of all crops in the United States has increased by an average of 25 per cent.

Recently the United States sold \$21,850,000 worth of wheat — about 11 million bushels — to Yugoslavia to be paid for in Yugoslavia currency.

A long-term contract provides for minimum shipments of bacon from Denmark to the United Kingdom of not less than 90 per cent of Denmark's exportable surplus.

In the past crop year nearly 44 per cent of all flour milled in Canada was exported. Exports amounted to 9,003,000 barrels while total output of flour was 20,714,000 barrels.

The United States department of agriculture has turned down as impractical a suggestion that farmers in that country be paid to cut their grain acreage and increase plantings of soil-building crops.

Roy C. Marler, president of the Alberta Federation of Agriculture, has suggested as one of the major steps to solving the grain surplus problem farmers of western Canada would be well advised to reduce the wheat acreage by 33 per cent.

Some 4,952 4-H clubs operated in Canada in 1955, the total membership being 72,784. The average age was 13 years and average club membership 14.7. Of the total membership boys exceeded girls by 640.

Manitoba farmers have cut wheat acreage from 3,512,000 in 1940 to 1,950,000 in 1955. In the same period acreage under barley has gone up from 1,256,000 to 2,000,000, under oats from 1,293,000 to 1,485,000, and under flax from 89,500 to 531,000. Acreage under specialized crops has increased substantially.

In the first eight months of this year Alberta farmers marketed 293,350 head of cattle, 53,155 calves, 68,772 sheep and lambs and 888,614 hogs. The estimated cash income from livestock sales in the 8 months is \$94,182,000 compared with \$96,428,000 in the same period in 1954.

Most losses in Alberta from Bang's disease are due to lack of care in buying herd additions, states Dr. E. E. Ballantyne, director of veterinary services. A blood test taken by a veterinarian will show whether or not the animal is a carrier. Herd owners should raise their own replacements or buy vaccinates or calves that can be vaccinated.

Insect damage from stored grain has been reported from many localities throughout the west, the main pests being the rusty grain beetle and the grain mite. Information regarding this problem is available in a bulletin obtainable from Stored Products Insect Laboratory, Canadian Department of Agriculture, Winnipeg, Manitoba.

A change of oil and new filters will keep that high-priced combine in condition for a long storage period. If the spark plugs are taken out, about 2 ozs. of oil squirted into each cylinder and the engine turned over 2 or 3 times with a crank, valves and cylinder walls will be kept from rusting and sticking. Drain the fuel from tank, carburetor bowl and sediment bowl.

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You will be interested...

By STANLEY F. KEMSLEY

You will be interested in discovering:

That in 1622 the first weekly newspaper was published overseas in England.

* * *

By 1639 the first printing press in the British North American possessions was founded at Harvard university, (Massachusetts).

* * *

1764, the first Canadian newspaper appeared in the old streets of Quebec, which more so, than even now, was mostly a French populated city.

* * *

Probably the pioneer steam railway puffed from Stockton to Darlington, England, in 1825.

Three years later steam was common along the elevated rail beds of France.

* * *

1837 — the first year of young Victoria's long reign, Canada imported from England her first steam railway train: The green highways began wearing a blackish appearance.

* * *

Adhesive postage labels were first "licked" in English homes in January of 1840.

* * *

Then, eleven years later, Canadians "licked 'em" down East; later out west...

* * *

The first United Parliament of Canada assembled at Kingston, Ontario in 1841.

* * *

1867, by the fundamental British North American Act, the first federal House of Commons came into being.

* * *

1927 — the Diamond Jubilee of this National Confederation was celebrated by loyal Canucks from east to west — (and all between).

* * *

As you go over your daily newspaper you'll be interested in these "firsts":

* * *

In 1865 the ports of Japan were first thrown open to world markets.

Three years later the feudal regime ended in the Japanese islands.

* * *

1904 — the Russian-Japanese War began. By the next year Japan became the world power of the Orient.

* * *

(And in 1905, the provinces, Alberta and Saskatchewan, came alive)

At last Canada, and the United States were first really friendly. For in 1908, a committee was formed to settle all outstanding boundary squabbles; (as though such problems ever existed!)

* * *

1912 — China, child of ages past, suddenly threw off her celestial silken robe, and hailed her first real republic (amid much modern bloodshed).

By 1917 much blood had flowed under the northern bridges.

* * *

On November 8th the Soviet Republic was first announced to the Western World.

* * *

It was not till 1919 that the first woman (Lady Astor,) was elected to the British House of Commons!

(So Mrs. Pankhurst's suffragettes did not "suffer" in vain.)

* * *

And, of course, "firsts" are cropping up in the news every day.

Watch for them. (Polio vaccine and Dr. Salk, for example).

The hog situation

CANADIAN hog marketings for the first nine months of the current year totalled 5,347,000 compared with 3,677,000 for the same period in the previous year. The price of hogs may drop to the floor fixed by the price support board—\$24 at Toronto, \$18.50 in Alberta.

In the latter part of October A grade hogs were selling at \$20.75 at Calgary. There are not so many A grades and C grades bring \$3 less. At about the same time 212-lb. hogs were selling at \$13.82 live weight on the St. Paul market. Canadian prices are dressed weight so that the equivalent St. Paul price would be about \$18.50.

Producers figure that the government estimate of increased hog production in Canada is too high and there is too much bearish news. Pork consumption will likely increase.

Grain loan plan

THE federal cabinet has decided on a policy to provide some cash to western farmers who are unable to deliver grain in any volume because of the plugged condition of country and terminal elevators.

The plan provides for the banks to extend loans up to \$1,000 per individual on the security of farm stored grain. The government will guarantee the banks against loss up to 25 per cent of the loans.

Farm leaders have protested against the proposal. What is wanted by some is an advance payment from the Wheat Board. Rt. Hon. J. G. Gardiner, minister of agriculture, says such a plan is impracticable. If losses are sustained, those farmers who did not get advances would have to bear the same.

* * *

In most years about 45 per cent of the U.S. corn crop is sold through hogs.

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BIGGER PROFITS**

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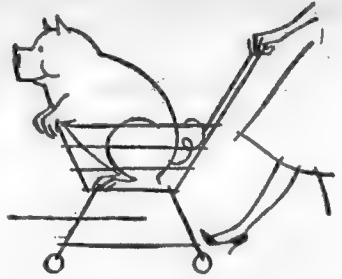
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**"TO MARKET,
TO MARKET"...**

Housewives don't buy livestock. They buy meat. Between the farmer and the housewife the livestock marketing system provides a vital connecting link. The values it reflects day by day are a compromise between the consumer who wants to buy meat and the producer who wants to sell livestock.



Offering a ready cash market for any animal at any place, on any day, the packers put meat efficiently and economically on retail meat counters across the country in the many varied forms—fresh, cured and canned—which housewives want. They convert all livestock offered for sale into a steady flow of meat.

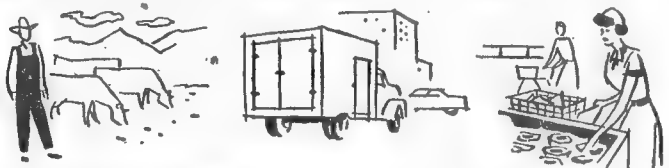


Long hauls or short trips by rail or truck bring livestock to market. They may be consigned to a commission agent for sale on a stockyard or direct to a packing plant. Either way, the different weights, finishes, types and species, from prime meat animals to cast-off breeding stock, must be sorted and assembled into slaughter lots.



This wide variety and changing volume of raw material is processed into the kind and form of meat and by-products most in demand, thereby increasing its value. It may be sold immediately, exported, or stored at times to meet consumer needs when slaughterings are low.

Many services play a part in marketing—assembling, shipping, sorting, grading, inspecting, market reporting, financing, processing, storing, packaging and distributing. Naturally these services cost money. Part of this cost is offset by by-product credits but, in the main, the costs of marketing represent the difference between what producers receive for livestock and what retailers pay for meat.



The livestock marketing system has a good record. In spite of the perishable nature of the product and the variety and complexity of the operations required in processing and distribution, marketing margin studies show that the farmer's share of the meat sales dollar is larger than for any other major food product.

**"DOC" BROWNELL'S CORNER**

The way I see it, the livestock marketing system we have today grew out of the needs of the farmer and consumer. As their needs developed, the system changed to suit them and no doubt it will continue to change with the times. I figure the set-up works because it's healthy and flexible. But it does seem to me

that, if a change is made, we'd better be careful not to scrap two very fundamental principles. First, always keep a wide variety of meat products flowing steadily to the consumer. Secondly, retain for the farmer selling livestock the right to select the time, place and method of sale.

Copies of our "Letter on Canadian Livestock Products" are available on request.

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The dream of Peter Shirt

(*As told to the writer by the late James Youmans, missionary to the Indians at Whitefish Lake from 1880-1885.)

By ANNIE L. GAETZ

PETER SHIRT, as a small orphan Indian boy, had been adopted by Peter Erasmus, an educated half-breed, who acted as interpreter for the Hudson's Bay Company. In 1885, at the time of this story, Peter Erasmus was living at Whitefish Lake, and his foster-son Peter Shirt, then a grown man, was living nearby.

Five years earlier, in 1880, Peter Shirt had a dream, in which appeared a venerable old man with long flowing locks, who, in a voice of authority, bade Peter look east. Obeying the command, there appeared before his vision the familiar outline of Onion Lake, its usually placid waters angry, turbulent and overhung with dark clouds. On a point of land running out into the lake, Peter beheld the Cree Chiet, Big Bear. He was not his usual arrogant self, but naked, sorrowing and subdued.

Astonished, Peter turned to the old man of his dreams and asked the meaning of what he beheld. For an answer, he was told to look west, where he saw the deserted riverbed of the North Saskatchewan, known as Little Valley, a favorite camping

ground of the Indians on their way to trade at Fort Victoria. In the valley, he saw many teepees, with women, children and braves moving about the encampment. But an unusual sight met his eye — Red Coats were there also.

The early Indians were simple folk, they believed very firmly in messages received from the spirit world. The meaning of this dream was clear to Peter Shirt. It meant sorrow and bloodshed for his people. Greatly disturbed, he asked the old man of his dreams when these things would come about, and was told that he would have a white horse, and when the white horse died, the dream would be fulfilled.

Now Peter already had a white horse, his pride and joy, and the envy of all his fellow tribesmen. In the morning, he rode over and told Peter Erasmus of his dream, and was advised to forget it.

The heads of the tribes had all signed the treaty; even Big Bear had reluctantly signed in 1879, agreeing to live with his people around Onion and Frog Lakes. No trouble was anticipated from Big Bear. Yet it was difficult for Peter to forget the dream, and he and his foster-father often dis-

cussed it and the possibility of its fulfilment.

It was on April 4, 1885, when Peter Erasmus was helping the missionary Mr. Youmans put up the log walls of a new school house at the mission at Whitefish Lake, that Chief Seenum rode up and told them of the uprising of the Crees, far down the river. The men dropped their tools, and Chief Seenum accompanied them to the missionary's house for dinner, to talk over the situation. Peter Erasmus was much disturbed, for Peter Shirt had ridden over that morning, to tell him that the white horse had died during the night.

Chief Seenum said Louis Waychu-saen, a delegate from Big Bear's camp, had arrived to meet the Whitefish Indians in council the next morning to try to persuade them to join the rebels. The Chief advised the missionary and his wife to hide in the woods, which they did early the next morning.

The council was long and stormy, Big Bear's delegate describing the ease with which the Indian Agent Mann and his family had been captured at Onion Lake, and how the white people had been murdered at Frog Lake. Should the Whitefish Indians join the rebels, they were to have half the plunder that had already been taken, as well as a share of that which would later be forthcoming.

Chief Seenum assured his men that the friendship of the white man was worth more than his goods. Still they wavered, for the idea of loot appealed strongly to them.

Then Peter Erasmus made a great peace speech. He described the dream of Peter Shirt, the disaster it foretold for the Indian people, and the sorry plight of Big Bear. He told of the sign that had been given, which would tell them when these things would come to pass. He related how the white horse had died the night before. This, he said, was surely a warning from the spirit world.

The Indians, who believed in the spirit world speaking, were deeply impressed with the dream of Peter Shirt, and all but two joined Chief Seenum on the side of peace.

Fearing an attack from Big Bear's band, the Indians at Whitefish Lake decided to move to Fort Victoria where they would have protection. To avoid rebels, they did not take the direct route, but swung to the left which took them to Little Valley. Here they pitched their teepees, while the two Peters rode in to Fort Victoria to announce their coming. Little Valley was filled with teepees, men, women and children as well as the Red Coats moving among them. Thus was the dream of Peter Shirt fulfilled.

WHEAT STATISTICS

Supplies in 4 main exporting countries,
Sept. 1 2,314,000,000
A year ago 2,187,000,000
Canadian surplus 832,100,000
A year ago 745,500,000
World production, 1955 7,300,000,000

Ontario's minister of agriculture, Hon. Fletcher Thomas, has expressed the opinion that a great beef cattle raising business could be developed in the northern part of that province, around the mining towns of Timmins and Cochrane. He says that Southern Ontario farmers are now spending \$2,000,000 a year in purchases of feeder cattle from the prairie provinces, also paying \$1,000,000 a year on the freighting of the animals east. This procedure could be eliminated, Mr. Thomas maintains, if feeder cattle in numbers were raised in the northern parts of Ontario.



Safety Sam Says...

Observe the "Right-of-Way" Rule of the Road

Failing to yield the right-of-way constitutes the greatest single cause of traffic accidents. Under the "good manner" code of the road, the car on the right has the right-of-way.

Furthermore, section 51 of the Vehicles and Highway Traffic act, states when 2 vehicles approach or enter an intersection at approximately the same time — the driver of the vehicle that is on the right shall have the right-of-way.

Make it a habit to approach all intersections with caution and at reduced speed, and always give the car on your right the right-of-way. Remember, in the event of an accident, failure to yield the right-of-way can result in a charge.

Published with a view to improving the courtesy of the road . . . by



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REMEMBER . . . COURTESY IS CONTAGIOUS

ACROSS THE COUNTRYSIDE

The longtime average yield of wheat in the prairie provinces is 16 bushels to the acre.

Your lawn will get an earlier start next spring if it is green when it freezes this fall.

When wind erosion once starts it tends to spread from field to field and farm to farm.

For economical use of wood preservative and timber, choose the smallest posts that will meet your fencing requirements.

Commercial powders containing rotenone or pyrethrum will control fleas on dogs and cats.

In a cultivated pasture experiment at Lethbridge the addition of fertilizer increased the yield of forage by 49 per cent and the yield of animal products by 64 per cent. It is reasonable to suppose the improvement of the feeding value of native grasses would have a similar effect.

It's important before you put your combine away for the season to get the used oil out of the crankcase and replace it with new oil, and install a new oil filter.

This year there is a generally good potato crop across Canada and prices are down. The United States also has a big spud crop and surplus potatoes are selling at very low prices.

Drain the gas tank on your combine. That will prevent a sticky substance known as gasoline gum forming in the gas tank after the fuel is evaporated, which will occur before the combine is used next harvest.

The weather has been favorable in the winter wheat regions of the U.S.A. midwest and conditions are reported best in years.

The value of eggs and poultry marketed by Alberta farmers in the first eight months of the current year is estimated at \$4,289,000 compared with \$4,097,000 for the same period last year.

Grass-alfalfa mixtures have proved to be the most satisfactory mixture for both hay and pastures, following experiments made at the Swift Current Experimental farm. Ladak alfalfa is recommended and should be sown at the rate of 1 lb. with grass seed for pasture and 2 lbs. for grass.

Governments are getting more and more into the business of foreign trade in farm products and economic chaos is in prospects for the world unless there is more co-operation among governments. Such was the consensus of opinion at the annual meeting of the International Federation of Agricultural Producers held at Rome, Italy.

It is hoped that there will be an enlarged market for malting barley this crop year. There is not a large volume in Manitoba, but northeastern Saskatchewan has some excellent malting barley. Alberta also has some excellent barley. The domestic demand is around 17,000,000 bushels, but fairly substantial exports to the U.S.A. is expected as barley in the Dakotas, the main barley-growing area, suffered from the hot summer weather.

An illustrated booklet dealing with the control of water erosion which causes gullies in farm fields is available from the Saskatchewan Department of Agriculture, Regina. Farmers who are faced with this problem should get a copy of the booklet.

Adequate ventilation is important for stored vegetables, warns the Swift Current Experimental Station. Slats should be provided to keep the vegetables off the floor and an outlet constructed to carry off moisture saturated air.

The Experimental Farm sub-station at Portage la Prairie, Manitoba, is planning an extensive program with field peas, oil flax, sugar beets, sunflowers, rapeseed and soybeans. Hitherto the main work there has been with fibre flax, in which there has recently been a lack of economic appeal.

The Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations held its tenth birthday party in Quebec City recently. Lord Boyd-Orr, the first director, sent a message predicting that within ten years' time no one will any longer see, side by side in this small world, piled up unsaleable food, bringing depression to agriculture in some countries and hunger due to food shortages in other countries.

An effort is being made by U.S. agricultural authorities to encourage the production of bacon type hogs in that country. Just recently Howard Henry, of Westhope, North Dakota, purchased fifteen pure-bred Yorkshire hogs from some of Saskatchewan's best known herds, and the animals will be used as foundation breeding stock. The animals were selected by Dr. S. L. Curtis, provincial government livestock specialist, and were from the herds of Archie Anderson of Alinby, Peter Scothorn of Spruce Home, Viggo Jensen of Fir Ridge, A. H. Dyck of Borden, Paul Kernalen-guen of St. Brieux and Charles Harlton and Son of Belle Plaine.

LIVE STOCK HOUSING

A new booklet showing the latest trends in beef cattle housing and equipment is available to farmers and ranchers from the Provincial Department of Agriculture at Regina and District Agricultural Representatives according to J. A. Peck, farm mechanics specialist.

The booklet explains the design of different types of barns, sheds, feedlots and corrals, as well as loading chutes, feed racks and other labor saving devices used in raising livestock. When one particular design has been chosen from the booklet, detailed plans for construction may be had free of charge by writing to the Department of Agriculture at Regina.

WATER FOR LIVESTOCK

WATER that is available for livestock at all times will keep the animals and fowl healthy and more productive. The water should be fresh and clean.

It has been demonstrated by scientific tests that cows will produce more milk and butterfat if provided with abundance of water.

Pigs will gain more weight on less feed if a self-watering trough is made available to them.

It is very important to keep a supply of fresh water for poultry at all times.

An average increase of over 5 bushels per acre of wheat on fallow was obtained from the use of 40 pounds per acre of ammonium phosphate fertilizer (11-48-0) on eleven Manitoba Illustration Stations Farms in 1955. The greatest benefits occurred at Katrine and Morris where increases of 10.6 bushels and 9.4 bushels respectively per acre were obtained. The lowest increase was 2.5 bushels per acre on the light textured soils at Pipestone. This fertilizer for barley, at the same rate, applied to fallow land at Silverton, Manitoba, increased the yield by 17 bushels per acre.

HEALTH HINTS

Any person who handles a baby should not smoke while lifting or holding the child. Ashes falling onto the infant's face or eyes could cause a painful burn.

The skin covers a greater area than any other organ of the human body and does a vital job of protecting the rest of the organs from germ and dirt. Unless the skin is kept clean by regular bathing, it forms a breeding place for bacteria and parasites.

Years ago, tuberculosis was Canada's No. 1 killer disease. Today it is well down the list but its figures are still too high. Regular chest x-ray examinations, free of charge in most parts of Canada, can discover the earliest signs of the disease before it becomes established.

Outbreaks of scurvy among the

early visitors to Canada were the result of lack of fresh fruit and vegetables in their diet on the long sea voyage. Today, it is known that vitamin C is the vital nutrient that prevents the disease. This vitamin is available in citrus fruit or tomatoes and their juices and from many other fresh fruits and vegetables.



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Our blue cow is so tame I can sit on her back. When we milk her, she kicks if there is no chop for her. If she eats all the chop before we finish milking, she kicks and kicks. Mum says she is a spoiled brat.

Douglas Petersen.
Box 85, Sundre, Alta.

This morning when I was going to school I saw a deer. It crossed the road in front of me. It stopped and stood there. I got close to it, then it hopped a way into the trees. It did not seem frightened at all.

Kenneth A. Adams
Box 83, Rimbey, Alta.

It was a cold winter day and our little pup about 4 months old decided to have a warm bed, so he went and slept comfortably on a calf about a year old. The calf didn't mind and the dog felt perfectly safe and sound. Of course he wasn't much of a cattle dog.

Mary Thiessen
Box 48, Austin, Manitoba.

One day last winter a muskrat wandered into the barn. Dad said his home must have frozen up. He got quite tame, but we could never touch him. When we milked the cows he would come up for his milk. He liked bread, too, and sure knew where his dish was! We put a board against the tank where we water the calves and it was a lot of fun to watch him scramble up the board and wash his face with his paws. Then he would dive into the tank of water. He went back to the slough when spring came.

Kenneth McLean.
Tolland, Alberta.

We have a pet little dog named Buster. He is about five months old. When we put milk for the cat in its bowl, Buster would jump and bark till the cat would go away and he could have the milk to himself. One day we put milk for the cat and here comes Buster. He started to bark but the cat didn't go away, instead she turned around and gave Buster a thrashing. Now Buster is friendly to the cat and never barks at it again. I guess the cat taught him a good lesson, don't you?

Victoria Bizon.
Spruce Valley, Alta.

The past summer, when I was staying at my Uncle's farm at Midale, Sask., I had lots of fun. A boy from Weyburn and I were supposed to be doing the haying. The boy pitched it up and I stayed on top and straightened it around. We finished the hay and started on the straw. Every 3 or 4 piles we picked up a rabbit would run out. One time when one ran out it ran only about 5 feet and stopped so we said we'd kill it. The boy picked up his fork slowly and brought it down real fast and hit the bunny. So, that was the end of the bunny. I sure think farm life is fun, don't you? I'll write more stories to you if I can think of any. I am 12 years old and my birthday is on February the 21. Could I maybe get a twin pen pal through this? No other pen pals, please, as I already have 3.

Donelda Picker.
Wordsworth, Sask.

When the duck season opens we always have our quota of ducks though we never go hunting with guns. Every evening after the "gun hunting" nimrods leave, we take our dog, Bruno, and go to the nearby sloughs frequented by ducks. Bruno has the knack for tracking down and retrieving the ducks that have been maimed and left to die by the sports men.

Bill Gryshook.
Lavoy, Alberta.

One fine day as I was walking in our wood-lot I heard a terrific "crow" commotion. I wanted to know the reason for their raucous ca-a-a-rrr, ca-aaarr, caaarr sounds. I came stealthily and noticed a very ruffled, sleepy Great Horned owl sitting on a tree and the crows taking great delight in tormenting her. They were nose-diving at it, and keeping it awake and in very bad humor by their loud, shrill insolent guffaws.

B. Greschuk.
Two Hills, Alta.

I spent the summer holidays on my uncle's farm. After the midday meal I used to take scraps of food to the dogs. I called the dogs by whistling. Pretty soon not only the dogs but also the chickens would come running when I whistled. The two cats were next to learn what the whistling was for. Finally the turkeys fell in line. So, when I whistled, there would come the dogs, the cats, the chickens and the turkeys all eager for their share of the food.

W. M. Gresuck.
540-14th Ave. N.E., Calgary, Alta.

One night last week while my seventeen year-old brother and I were busily doing our homework, our parents told us that they were going out and would return home late.

Before they left the house, they warned us to be sure to lock the door and refuse to admit anybody we did not recognize.

About nine o'clock in the evening my brother, Don, decided to go on the roof for some fresh air.

I had an important exam the next day so I continued to study. Suddenly, I heard a noise coming from my parents' bedroom. I went into the room to investigate and noticed a figure on the ladder coming onto the roof. Obviously, an intruder had come up from the ladder and was trying to break into the house. Frantically, I ran into the living room and returned with a vase to throw at the intruder.

When I returned into the bedroom, the figure had already climbed through the window. I was just about to throw the vase when I heard, "Stop! — it's me — Don!" I found out later that someone had accidentally locked Don on the roof. After unsuccessfully trying to attract my attention by stamping his foot on the roof, he decided to come down through another window.

Needless to say, we had a good laugh over the incident, which might not have been so funny if he hadn't identified himself in time while I had the vase in my hand.

(Miss) Shelby Taylor
Glenside, Sask.

One Sunday while at Island Lake we saw 2 little children playing in a boat. We left the lake soon after to go home. Next day we heard that the children drifted off in the boat all alone.

They were nearly half a mile from the shore when they became panic-stricken and began to scream for help. One of the boys saw them, he shouted to them to sit down quietly and he would come for them, he swam out and brought them back safely. Their holiday could have ended in tragedy but for this brave boy's heroism.

Jo Durling
Westlock, Alberta.

"Oof! See what I found," I heard Mom exclaim last Friday as we were stooking oats. I ran over and almost stepped on a tiny baby bush rabbit, not more than five or six weeks old. I brought it home, and we named it "Anne". That night "Anne" drank milk from an eye-dropper. We keep her in a cage at night, but she has the run of the house during the day. Lassie, our collie, is very interested in the little ball of fur, and right now "Anne" is cuddled up close to Lassie who is lying under the bed. I hope to make a nice pet out of "Anne" and keep her until she is big enough to look after herself.

(Miss) Ruth Rask.
Alticane, Sask.

One night when it was about 12:00, we heard the dog barking in the chicken coup. Daddy took the rifle and went into the chicken house. All of us followed into there. We forgot to bring the flashlight with us so Dad had to go back for it. By the time he got back it was gone. A couple of nights later at about 11:00 the dog barked again. We all went out to the chicken house. Dad went in and shot at the animal which eyes he saw glaring in the dark. Mom shone the light on the animal which was later found out to be a groundhog. We were all glad we wouldn't have to get up at night any more.

Emelie Grace.
Bowmanville, Ont.

One year when one of my father's sows had piglets, one was a runt. My Dad told me if I'd feed it and look after it I could keep her for a pet. I fed her eggs and milk mixed together. I would hold her in my arms just like I would hold a baby and she would drink from a baby's bottle. For awhile we thought she might die, but then she got frisky. She grew rapidly, and talk about a spoiled pig, she was one! She slept under the stove at nights and when she got big enough to sleep outside, my Dad made her a little house. He also made her a little trough as the other pigs wouldn't let her eat with them. When she was about 7 months old she started to eat baby chicks. We gave her a few good lickings and she left them alone for awhile. Then one day I caught her eating a rooster. When my father heard about this he said I would have to ship her. So the day came when the truck came in to haul her away to Edmonton. I cried when the truck left, because I liked her as well for a pet as I did my cats or dog. I received \$55.00 for her, but that didn't make me feel much better. I liked her better than any pet I'd ever had. By the way, I named her Petunia.

Carole Saunders.
Box 38, Tawatinaw, Alta.

A fascinating hobby

Jy JANE DALE

MRS. Maude Wright of Burnaby, B.C., gave me a few inside facts on one of her hobbies — gathering and finishing driftwood for ornaments. She has many of these in points of vantage through her home. Each one added something to the general tastefulness of its surroundings. It was hard for me to believe that I was looking at bits of wood cast up onto the beach by the Pacific Ocean — driftwood.

Mrs. Wright explained that driftwood found on the ocean beaches is different from bits of roots and gnarled limbs found inland. The immersion in the salt water and the exposure to wind and weather hardens the wood into almost rock-like density. It is this quality that makes each piece so substantial and of value to an artist. When she combs the beaches for likely material she picks only those which appeals to her artistic sense. She must "see" some form in each one. To the unimaginable these gnarled bits of roots and branches are merely junk. Just as they would call a spade a spade, so they would call all these pieces waste wood.

She picked up an unfinished fragment of wood — a recent find. "What do you think this may be?" she asked as she held it gracefully in her fingers. I studied it for a moment. "I can see a hound's head and a portion of its long, thin body," I ventured slowly, wondering if my imagination was equal to the test. "That's what I 'see'!" she cried exultantly, "A hound looking up at its master." She set that down to pick up another. "And this?" she laughed as she looked at me questioningly.

There could be no doubt of what it was. "An eagle," I was quick to reply. "This could be your hobby, too," Mrs. Wright said. "That is my bird of prey."

And so we went from beautiful treasure to another, each with its own peculiar grace and form brought out by the artistic insight and hand of my acquaintance. There was a calla lily, its upright bloom open to catch the early dew, a steed spent by long run, serpents and other animals, and long slender roots with balanced prongs on which to hang flour pots or rest vases. Some are placed on, a wide base, others require no extra support. Mrs. Wright gathers the driftwood at anytime, carrying it home and storing in her basement workshop until she has time to develop it. Once she "sees" what lies within it she sets to work to bring out that inner picture. Each piece is thoroughly cleaned and sanded. Occasionally a spot of wood filler or putty is placed in a knot or cavity in order to build up the general effect, then the whole surface is varnished and polished to reveal the true grain of the wood. When completed and set in in a special position in a room the bit of driftwood assumes a personality of its own and possesses tangible artistic value.

There are other objects in Mrs. Wright's home which reveals her artistic touch. Cones from native trees, gourds from the garden and flowers from the wayside, preserved and touched up with silver or gold paint to be used as ornaments. Besides keeping her home immaculate, her small lot well groomed, Mrs. Wright does private hair dressing among a small circle of clients. Even with all these interests she is never too busy to tell all she knows about her driftwood.



Expresses appreciation

The Editor:

I wish to compliment you on that feature article "The West Made Canada a Great Nation" (September issue) which, frankly, brightened my day here at the opposite side of this great land.

May I have the privilege of sending in a brief comment on the following "golden" paragraph?: "In the past 45 years the value of grain production alone" (in the Prairie Provinces) "has been close to \$30 billions. In addition, billions of dollars of meat, poultry, dairy and other products have been produced on the farms in the Prairie Provinces — most of which has been exported to other provinces, to the United States and overseas."

The above reminded me of a brace of items which I ran across in my reading days: (a) One of the nation's top farm leaders made a reference to the link between 'orderly marketing' and the aim "so that a fair amount of grain dollars may be available to work their way up through the whole fabric of Canadian business"; and (b) "Urban and rural economists met on common ground recently, in concluding that the basic significance of the 'farm dollar' — apart entirely from the core fact that agriculture feeds us all — lies in the concern that it multiplies itself by 7, as it moves through and energizes the nation's industrial veins!" (from "Grain Quarterly," St. Paul, Minn.).

In closing, I desire to record one reader's appreciation of a unique story, well told and beautifully documented! — W. P. D., Toronto, Ont.

Tribute to Professor Harrington

The Editor:

May I pay tribute to Professor Harrington of the University of Saskatchewan. He is retiring from the head of the Department of Field Husbandry. The farmers of the west owe a deep debt to Professor Harrington for his work as a plant breeder.

I am going to mention the value to Southwestern Manitoba of his efforts in selecting and improving Rutherford Flint corn. This is a selection from the native Indian corn.

Any variety of grain to be useful to a given area should have earliness so it will mature before frost every year, good yield and high quality of grain, resistance to frost, drought and wind, resistance to disease, and insect pests. Rutherford Flint fills all these requirements for Southwestern Manitoba. It ripens in the same number of days as wheat, about September 1st every year. It will yield as much per acre of dry shelled grain as wheat on similar land. It will make a crop when small grains produce nothing because of drought and will stand as much spring frost as wheat or oats; it will produce ripe grain after a fall frost of 7 degrees; there is no known disease that attacks it; is immune from attacks of green bugs or aphids and is very resistant to grass hoppers.

Its use here will be for fall pasture for fattening cattle or sheep in the field in the fall, and for field fattening of hogs in the fall. I consider this variety of corn will ripen any where

wheat can be ripened. The parent variety was the native Indian corn. Since 1890 we have never known this corn to fail to make a crop excepting the grasshopper year of 1934. White Bear, a Sioux Indian, grew a crop of this native corn on the banks of the Pipestone in 1869.

Professor Harrington's selection, Rutherford Flint, is a great improvement in every way over the Indian strain.

The livestock farmer whose barley this year was destroyed by green bugs or aphids and by rust in 1954 might well consider growing this early corn as a grain crop. In 1954, when the oats in this area were a very poor, light crop because of rust, Rutherford Flint produced a crop of plump grain.

The writer has no seed for sale, and I do not know of any seed-house handling it.

Gordon McLaren.
Pipestone, Man.

Research needed

The Editor:

During the period since the surplus of grain on the North American continent began, and up to the present when its proportions have become an increasing problem, there have been countless proposals and endless efforts made to cope with the situation. The acceleration in the use of modern equipment, the continued invention and improvement in its manufacture, the increasing knowledge and skill of fewer and better farm operators, better soil practices, increased fertility and the need for an even better standard of living, all these lead our grain farmers to more and more production. The same factors lead to the same result in European and other countries to whom we have been exporting so they are fast becoming self sufficient.

In the meantime, because the real cause and effect have been ignored by those in a position to assess them, and unrecognized by the farmers who create them, these surpluses have been treated as temporary and measures taken to erase them have had insignificant and picayune success.

It is time, therefore, for the farmers to cease their reliance on the other agencies to which they usually look for guidance and help, and find their own solution. But first they must face the facts and see the picture which those facts present.

It is becoming increasingly evident that the production of foodstuffs is no longer capable of maintaining let alone increasing the farmers' standard of living. So far he has been able to progress within shooting distance of other segments of the population, in the march toward ever higher standards. But this surplus problem has created a stalemate and he is now dropping rapidly behind. The rest of the economy will suffer because of his loss of spending power. But they will soon get accustomed to and learn to do without that portion due to surpluses, if in fact they ever notice it at all.

It is still true that the farmer is the backbone of the national economy. But it will be true only so long as the value of his production is a recognizable share of the national production. And since a large part of his value as a contributor to the

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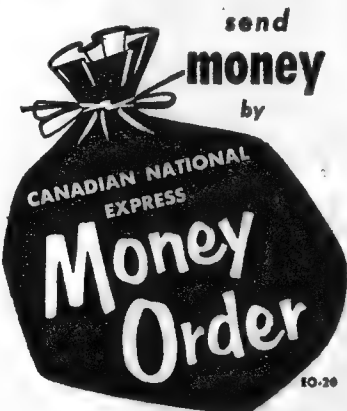
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national wealth is now useless and idle laying in storage bins, his net contribution of wheat dollars is near the vanishing point; about 300 million dollars in a total of goods and services of somewhere near 30 billions for the whole of Canada. Or about 1 dollar in every hundred.

Can the federal government or the seat of finance be expected to worry very much about that one per cent?

But 300 million dollars is a real big chunk of the spending money in the place where the wheat is grown. The farmers spend a lot of money every year to produce that wheat, and they would like to spend more for still more production if they could get rid of that stalemate. How much per bushel would it be worth to them if it could be sold tomorrow for \$1.00 per bushel at their local elevator, basis No. 3 northern? 10c? 5c? 3c? Let us say 5c per bushel on the 300 million now in store in this province. A tidy fifteen million dollars, no?

The papers announced a few days ago the dedication of a new building to cost, according to the paper, an estimated \$865,000, in Edmonton to be used for research, mostly in oil and coal with a very thin slice for soil

studies. I am sure whoever put up the money for this would be glad to co-operate with the farmers if they put that fifteen million into the kitty for research for utilization of farm products as raw materials for industry. That \$15 million would pay 100 research workers \$10,000 a year each, for two years, give them 10 million to play with and leave a couple million for the builders. Could 100 research men and women get 300 million out of that wheat if it was used for surfacing material for roads for plastic for building houses and box cars, for fertilizers for farms and gardens and so on? What do you think?

There has recently been set up in Chicago a gigantic corporation to promote the search for, and the award of scholarship to, bright high school students from all over the U.S. The initial fund will be twenty million dollars contributed by the Ford and Carnegie foundations. Wealthy individuals and corporations are expected to contribute ten million a year with which to carry on in the future.

With this example before her, Canada could initiate some such program, cut, of course, down to her size. If

the scholarships given to farm youth under it were directed toward the research suggested above with funds from the fifteen million, we would be justified in expecting a great deal from such a bunch of young and enthusiastic farm boys and girls. And the benefits would ripple out over the whole province to all its people. Best of all, the question of all-out production for our farmers and the problem of surpluses arising therefrom would be solved forever.

S.-W. Stasel.

Huxley, Alberta.

Farm marketing vote

The Editor :

Without commenting on the merits or otherwise of the marketing board legislation recently passed by the provincial government, and without expressing an opinion on the percentage of affirmative votes that should be required to implement such boards, it would appear that the voting stipulations laid down in this act depart seriously from sound democratic procedure. The requirements are that 51 per cent of the eligible voters shall vote in favor of establishing a board before it can be made effective. This automatically registers as a negative voter each person who fails to cast a ballot. Never before has democracy granted a voice in its affairs to those persons who were too disinterested to go to the polls. Seldom has the ballot box been so loaded against one side. There have been few elections where the results would not have been reversed had the losers been given all the votes that were not cast. It seems a strange procedure indeed to tell one group of people that it can register its opinion by staying at home and telling another that it must go to a polling booth and mark ballots. Democratic decisions can only be made by those who vote at elections. If necessary, the required majority can be set at 99 per cent, but 99 per cent of those who have intelligence and energy enough to exercise their franchise.

A. G.

U. K. WHEAT PURCHASES

Those who claim that Canada has lost the British market should look over the figures of U.K. wheat imports from Canada for the past few years. Here they are :

1950-51	101,500,000
1951-52	127,500,000
1952-53	122,800,000
1953-54	82,000,000
1954-55	101,800,000

In the first eight months of this year 77 people were killed in auto accidents in Saskatchewan, compared with 74 in the 12 months of last year.

On October 14 the Canadian Wheat Board put 1 bushel per specified acre quotas into effect at 23 prairie shipping points and 2-bushel quotas at 14 points. There are a total of 2,079 elevator shipping points in western Canada.

Last year domestic disappearance of wheat in this country totalled 145,847,685 bushels of which 46,390,000 went for human consumption and the balance for seed requirements, animal feed and industrial utilization.

Before winter sets in, the furnace should have a thorough checkup: chimney and stovepipes need a good going over to discover any leaks which could allow coal gas to escape into the home.



A minister told his congregation: "There is a certain man among us who is flirting with another man's wife. Unless he puts five dollars in the collection plate his name will be announced from the pulpit."

When the collection was in there were 19 five-dollar bills and a two-dollar bill. Attached to the latter was a note: "Other \$3.00 on pay-day."

A hungry Irishman went into a restaurant one Friday.

"Have yez any whale?" he asked.

"No," said the waiter.

"H'mph — well, have yez any nice fried shark?"

"No."

"All right!" roared the Irishman. "Then bring me a beefsteak smothered with onions. The Lord knows I tried to get fish!"

Sandy was learning to play the bagpipes. One night as he was strutting around the room, skirling for all he was worth, his wife tried a mild protest. "That's an awful noise you're making, Sandy," she said. Without a word Sandy put down the pipes, squatted and took off his shoes. Then he got up and resumed piping in his stocking feet.

"It's a funny thing," said a farmer to one of the hired men, "you're always late in the morning and you're living right here with me on the farm, yet Bill Brown who has two miles to come is never late."

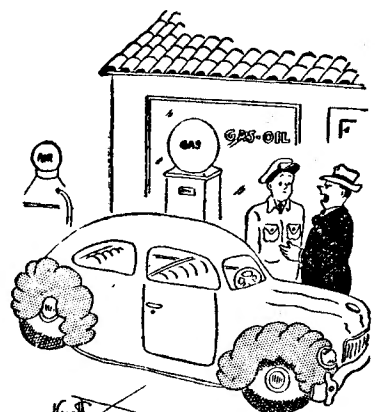
"That's reasonable," said the man. "If Bill's late in the morning he can hurry a bit, but if I'm late I'm right here."

A cowpuncher ordered a steak in a cafe and when it came it was very, very rare. Looking at it disgustedly the cowpuncher demanded it be returned to the kitchen and cooked.

"But it is cooked!" protested the waiter.

"Cooked, nothing," the cowboy said, "I've seen steers hurt worse than that and get better."

At the end of 1954 there were 2,700,000 passenger autos registered in Canada, compared with 1,200,000 in 1946. There were 177 cars per 1000 Canadians in 1954, compared with 296 cars per 1000 people in the United States.



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THE LIVE WIRE

Canada must get rid of wheat at all costs.

Gifts, credit, barter or sale, this nation must extend every effort to get wheat out of the country.

Why be afraid of the United States? That nation is doing everything it possibly can to shove wheat into overseas markets. It cannot do much more.

Whether or not they know it, every person in Canada is deeply interested in this wheat problem.

A gasoline "price war" in Winnipeg brought prices for that product down to 31.7 cents a gallon for No. 2 gasoline — the cheapest in Canada.

Canada's apple crop of close to 18 million bushels is a big one, and it is going to take some extraordinary marketing to dispose of it. The prairie provinces are the big market for B.C. apples. The export market does not look very promising.

Hog prices in Canada have been 6c above the U.S. price level. Rt. Hon.

J. G. Gardiner, Canada's minister of agriculture, says that situation is due to the embargo against U.S. hogs coming into this country, because of hog diseases south of the border.

FARM NOTES

The British Columbia Power Corporation, provincial government enterprise employed a Santa Barbara, Calif., firm to boost rainfall in the Campbell river area of Vancouver Island. The company operated 8 silver iodide cloud-seeding plants around the watershed. The spring runoff was small and heavy rains are needed to provide water for the 168,000 horsepower John Hart hydro-electric development. The rain-making company says rain clouds are needed to enable the apparatus to function.

BULL NUMBERS RESTRICTED

The number of bulls to be entered in the Calgary bull sale next spring has been limited to 850, of which 600 will be Herefords and the balance of 250 Shorthorns and Aberdeen-Angus. This decision was reached by the Alberta Cattle Breeders' Association. Entries will close Jan. 2 with Feb. 1 set as the final substitution date. All bulls must have been blood tested for Bangs disease or vaccinated as calves.

THERE'S MORE NEWS IN THE MAKING!

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MORE NATIONAL NEWS...

MORE INTERNATIONAL NEWS...

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BRAND NEW! McClary Oil Space Heaters, providing clean, efficient heat with rated output of 50,000 B.T.U. per hour! "Micro-Pilot" burner, long life combustion chamber and specially-constructed handy tip-out humidifier that is easily refilled without removing! A tremendous value!

36,000 B.T.U.
Regular \$89.00.

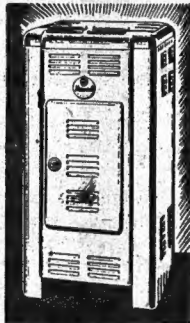
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It's the famous British Lee-Enfield .303 Calibre (short model) 24-in. barrel. Made with the positive locking safety. Open V-rear sight, adjustable to 2,000 yards. Blade foresight easily seen for fast shooting. Highly polished stock. British Nitro-proof tested. Perfectly balanced positive bolt action. Light, streamlined and fast pointing. Ship Wt. Approx. 7 lbs.

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These have never been fired and are not to be confused with other used, worn rifles on sale.

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ONAN, 3,000 WATT,
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Both of these are Economical, long-life units suitable for rugged use.

SEND 25% DEPOSIT with order or, if you wish to save C.O.D. Charges, send Money Order to full amount. Satisfaction Guaranteed.

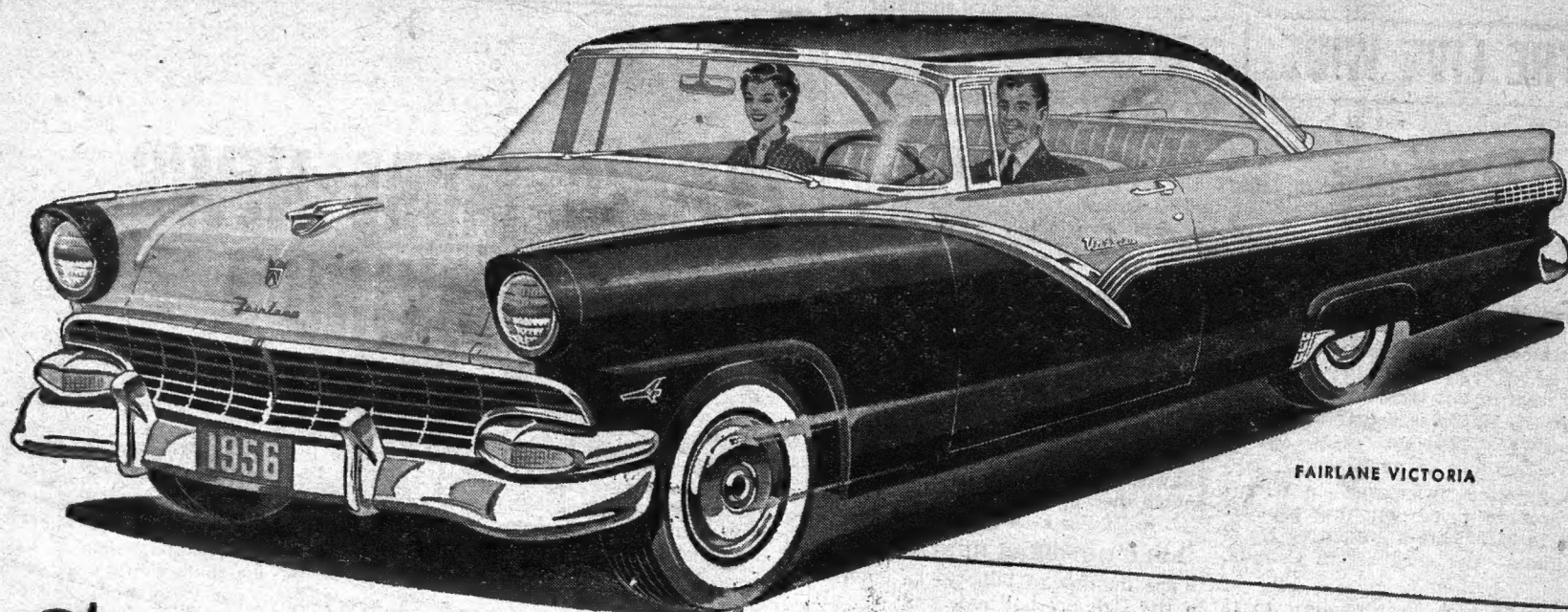
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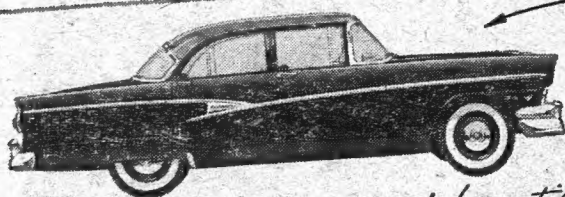
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Ford for '56

*A new concept of car-building
Styled for tomorrow—
with Lifeguard design
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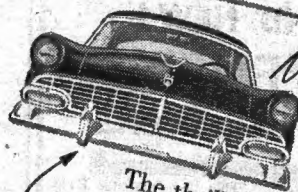
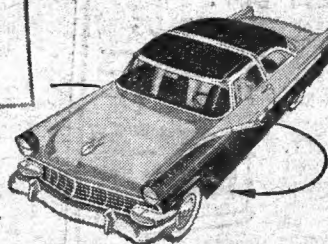


*17 Thunderbird-inspired beauties
in 4 challenging new series...all with
completely new Lifeguard design*

Ford for '56 brings you three vital advances in modern motoring: new, lower, longer-looking styling, inspired by the famous Thunderbird; new Thunderbird Y-8 power; and a new concept of safety planning—Lifeguard design! Inside and out, the '56 Ford has the look of a leader—in its wider, more massive grille, new wrap-around parking lights, big new jet-tube tail lights, slim, sleek new silhouette.

*New! Lifeguard design
planned for modern safety needs*

Ford's new Lifeguard design is based on two years of research in co-operation with safety experts. It includes a deep-centre steering wheel that cushions impact in the event of an accident; double-grip door latches for extra safety, designed to prevent doors springing open; optional seat belts and padding for instrument panel and visors.



*New! Thunderbird performance
from a more responsive
deep-block Y-8 engine*

The thrillingly responsive 202-Hp. Thunderbird Y-8 engine is standard on all Fordomatic-equipped Fairlane and Station Wagon models, while on Customline and Mainline models with Fordomatic Drive you get the ultra-responsive 176-Hp. Y-8. Both these great new engines give you the new smoothness, quietness and flexibility of deep-block Y-8 design!

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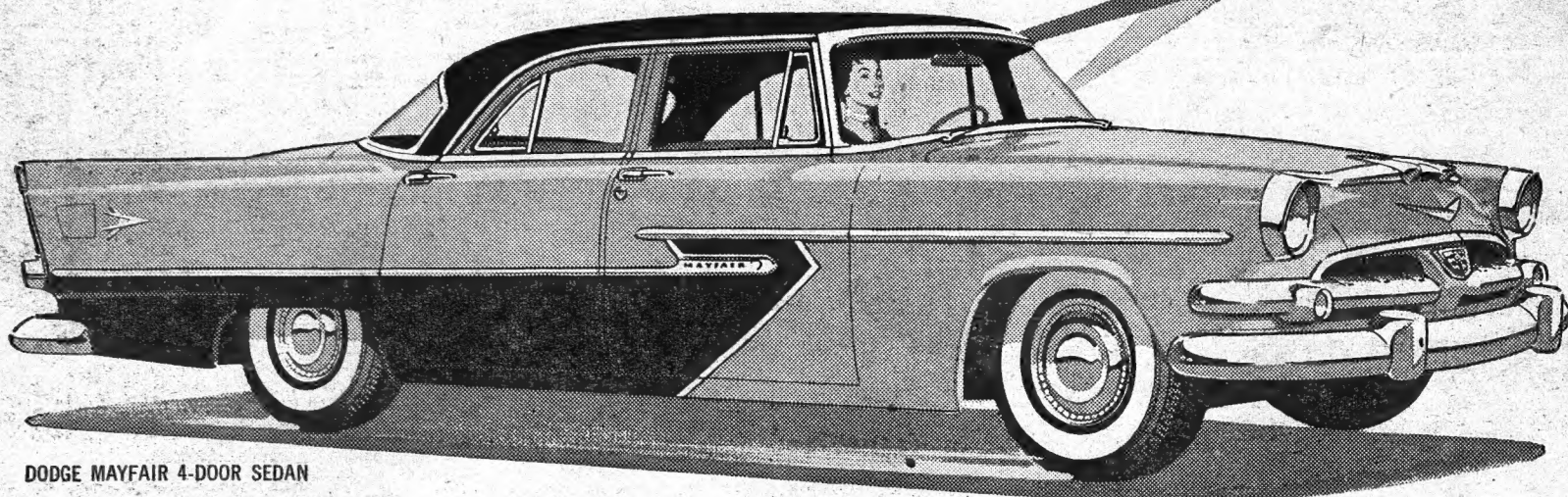
(Certain features illustrated or mentioned are "Standard" on some models, optional at extra cost on others.)





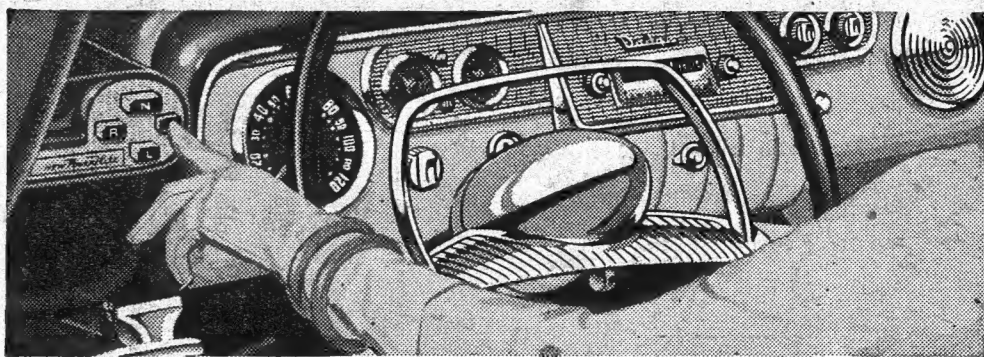
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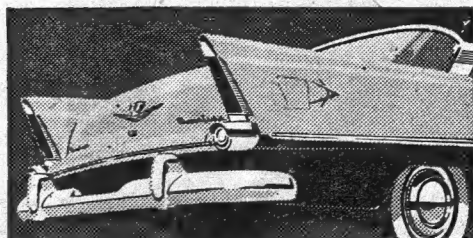
DODGE MAYFAIR 4-DOOR SEDAN

NEW '56 DODGE !



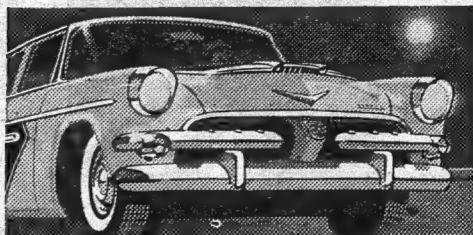
Put your finger on a new idea in driving— push-button automatic gear selecting!

You'll love the brand-new way of operating Dodge PowerFlite automatic transmission! It's all done with buttons . . . press a button for forward, reverse, neutral. "Wonderful", you'll say. It's the biggest advance in driving convenience since the invention of the automatic transmission! (PowerFlite transmission with push-button control available at extra cost.)



New Flight-Sweep Styling

A view of the '56 Dodge that other motorists will often see is this broad rear deck, accented by tall, tubular taillights. Daring rear fenders soar high at the back . . . dip forward to blend into long, sleek sides. It's the Forward Look for '56!



New 6 or V-8 Power!

Under the broad, low Dodge hood, there's more power than ever. Take your choice of the new, more powerful Hy-Fire V-8 or improved PowerFlow 6. They're high in torque; too, for more zip in getaway and hill climbing.

Just arrived
at your Dodge dealer's—
the **BIGGEST, NEWEST** car
in the low-price field!

Everywhere you look at this big, glamorous Dodge, you discover new thrills in fresh new styling and spirited new colours.

Here's new flair that accents the modern smartness of the Forward Look. Here's a sleek, low car that's the *longest* and *roomiest* in the low-price field.

Now, the Hy-Fire V-8 engine is available on all Dodge series. This new V-8 and the famous Dodge Six economy engine have higher torque to give you more getaway power this year . . . more "go" per gallon.

When you see this new Dodge, you'll hardly believe it's a low-priced car. Your eyes will tell you it's the biggest. Your good taste will tell you it's the newest in fashion. So see or phone your Dodge dealer. He'll be happy to arrange a demonstration drive!

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